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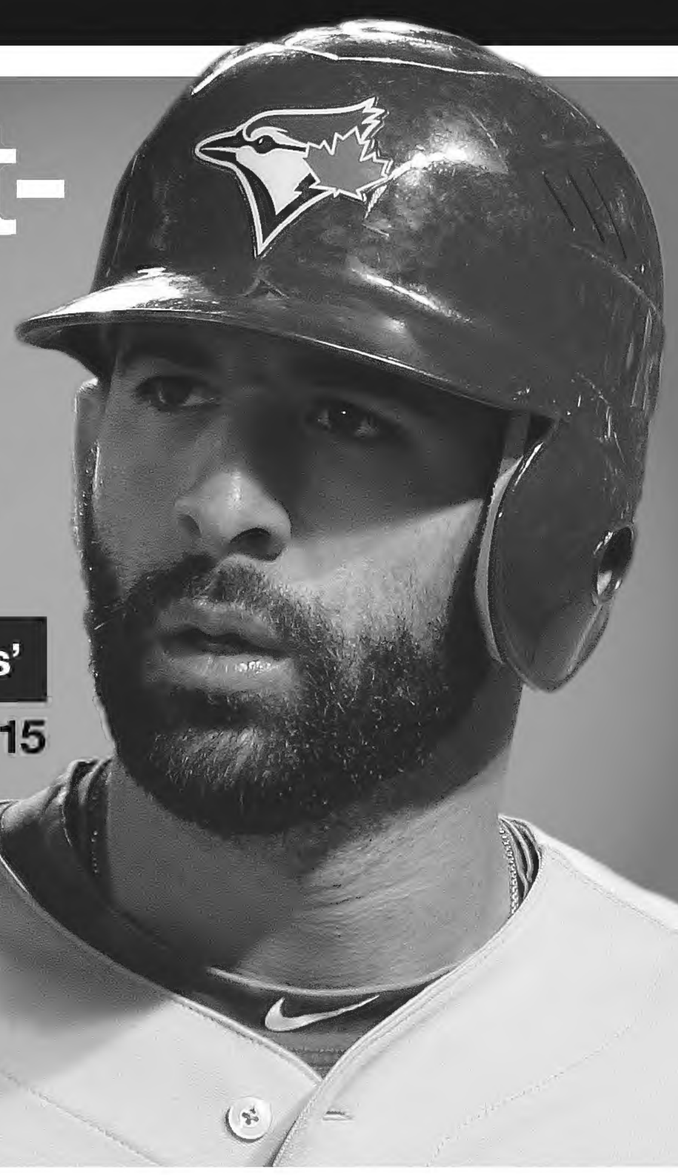
January 8th, 2014 ▪ Issue No. 19 ▪ Volume 104

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

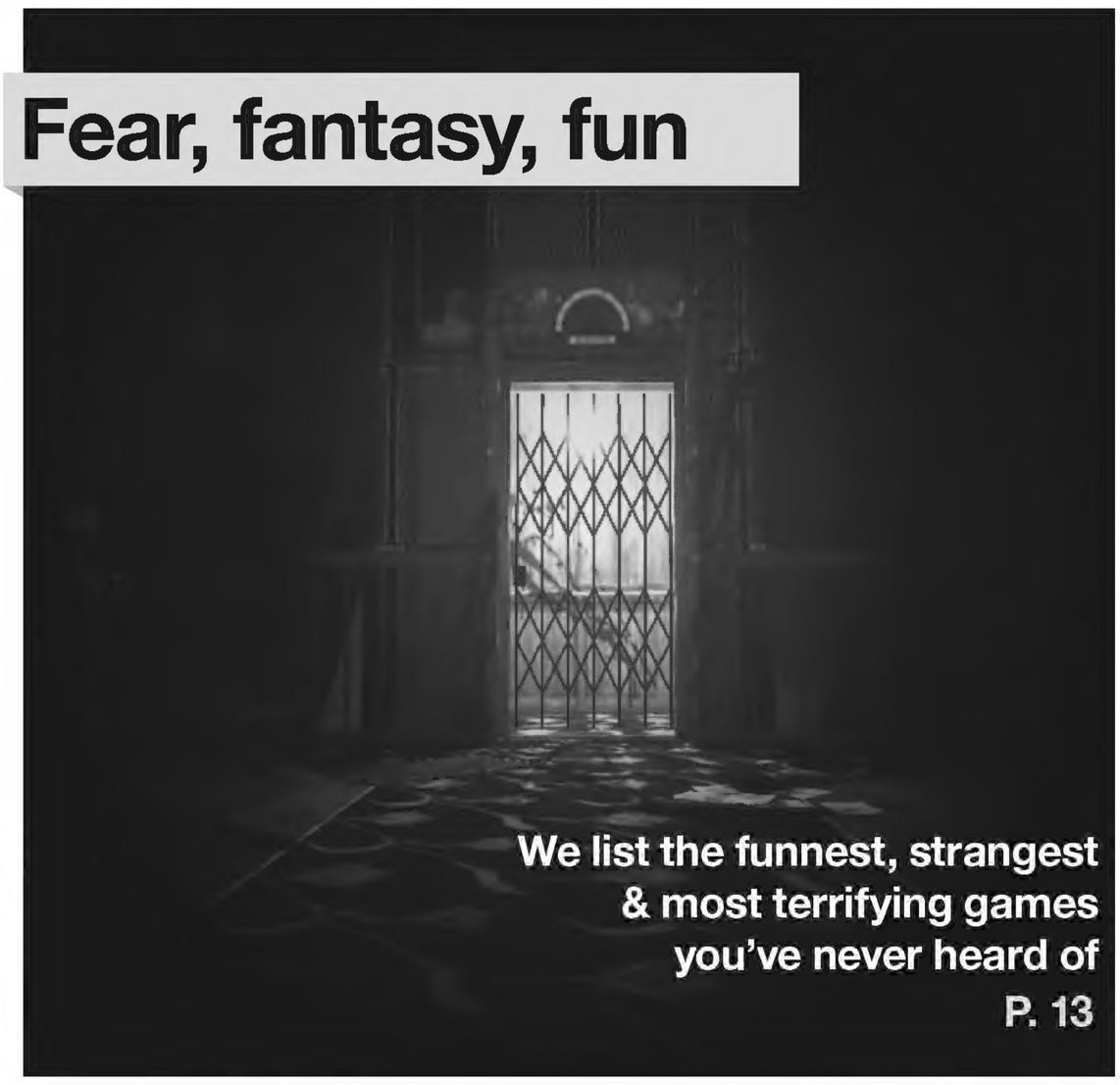
# 2014

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THE gateway

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## colophon

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## news haiku

Hey, Students' Council!
Heard ya don't like glitter peens.
#SORRYNOTSORRY

# News

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**Volunteer**
News meetings Monday s at 3 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

## correction

Every year, we at *The Gateway* like to poke a little fun at ourselves with our joke issue, *The Getaway*. Besides making jokes about the stories we've covered, we also like to parody the advertisements in our pages, usually by making them outlandish and ridiculous caricatures of what's usually seen in our pages. But in our Dec. 13, 2013 *Getaway* issue, despite the satirical nature of the Alumni Asked & Answered ad that told the story of Mitch "Nine Toes" O'Flaherty, a Bachelor of Arts recipient who's now homeless, we used the real logo for University of Alberta Alumni Association that regularly places these advertisements in our paper. The Alumni Asked & Answered that appeared on page 133 of the Dec. 13 edition of *The Getaway* was a creation of *The Getaway* and was not produced or endorsed by the Alumni Association. We apologize for any confusion that occurred upon reading it.



**PHOTO OF THE WEEK** Winter fog sweeps across mountain road. RANDY SAVOIE

## streeters

As you may have heard, it's 2014 now. Happy New Year!

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Michelle Mark + Kevin Schenk**

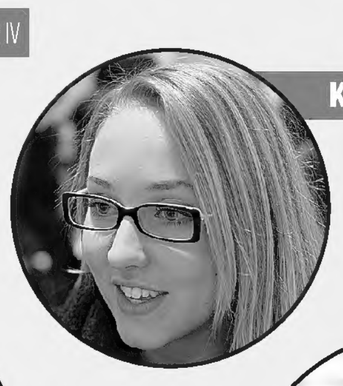
**WE ASKED...**

# What was your New Year's resolution?



**Samantha Spurrier** FINE ARTS IV

"I'm thinking it's to be more organized and on top of my schedule."



**Karly Johnson** SCIENCE II

"I'm not drinking any alcohol until July 5."



**Pratik Juta** SCIENCE IV

"Well, I was kind of an advocate of not jumping on the bandwagon and just making up a resolution, but now that you're putting me on the spot, I would say just increasing my self-development and self-discipline."



**William Lau** NUTRITION VII

"Mine's really basic: more sleep, more water, more fruits and veggies."

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**GUESSING GAMES** An AntiFreeze team competes in the "Snowed In" challenge. MICHELLE MARK

# Week-long campus AntiFreeze competition running full steam

**Andrea Ross**
STAFF REPORTER ▪ @_ROSSANDREA

Students are battling winter's chill with a heated competition this week as around 300 students compete in the annual campus-wide AntiFreeze competition.

Vying for a grand prize of an all-inclusive ski trip, 30 teams are completing various indoor and outdoor challenges held between Jan. 6 and 10. Alongside activities such as a dance competition, a frozen obstacle course and a bartending showdown, competitors will face some new surprises throughout the week.

"The thing with AntiFreeze is that there's pretty much new events every year," Students' Union Vice President (Student Life) William Lau said. "(But) this year two of our large events are going to be Happy Feet and Mixology."

The Happy Feet dance competition is making a comeback on SUB-stage after last year's hiatus. Organizers have encouraged costumes, choreography and plenty of creativity — but a little co-ordination also helps.

"Some people might perceive it as something new, but the veterans will know it's an old event," Lau said. "It (was) pretty much the most popular event for three years."

> **"We all try to embrace the cold and embrace the freezing."**
>
> WILLIAM LAU
> STUDENTS' UNION VICE-PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

AntiFreeze has solidified itself as a campus tradition after a decade of frozen fun. Last year's events included an obstacle course in which team members on skis dodged string, completed a sudoku puzzle and chugged two litre bottles of Coke.

Mixology 115, a popular bartending competition will close the event Friday as teams craft custom cocktails in SUB's Dinwoodie lounge. Teams will test their creativity as they create drinks judged on appearance and flavour. Alongside Happy Feet, it's one of only two recurring events, Lau said.

"It started off with the first AntiFreeze committee and some of them were bartenders and they were tired of hearing that bartending was easy, so they started a bartending competition," he explained.

Lau said registration is up from last year with five more teams registered to challenge their strength, endurance and creativity in the wintery weather. Temperatures are expected to remain mild throughout the week, but Lau said students would compete regardless of the balmy weather.

"One of the main purposes of AntiFreeze is that we all try to embrace the cold and embrace freezing," he said. "So hopefully with that, the colder it gets maybe people will get more excited and talk more about it."

# Duck-billed dino discovery makes waves in paleontology community

**Caitlin Hart**
GATEWAY WRITER

University of Alberta paleontologists recently made a fleshy find that may reinvent how the world imagines dinosaurs.

Just last year, researchers uncovered a preserved 72 million-year-old dinosaur skeleton in Grande Prairie, complete with soft tissue samples confirming the presence of a head crest — a unique find leading to new questions in paleontology. The skeleton has prompted scientists to reimagine how the Edmontosaurus regalis — Alberta region's duck-billed hadrosaur — looked.

Victoria Arbour, a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Science, said before the fossil was discovered, scientists thought they had a good idea of what the Edmontosaurus looked like, and were surprised to learn its head wasn't flat, as previously thought. She likened the discovery to deducing an elephant's appearance using only its skull.

"If we only knew about elephants from their skulls, we wouldn't know about their trunks," she said.

"(The skeleton) allows us to flesh out what they looked like in life."

Arbour performed CT scans on the remains, which she said helped determine the find as truly unique. Scientists had not previously been able to find preserved soft tissue for these dinosaurs.

The Edmontosaurus' head crest may have been used to ward off predators, or involved in mating, she explained, although she said more research must be done to determine its exact function.

"These are all new questions for paleontology," she said.

The researchers' findings, published in *Current Biology*, could likely open doors in the study of other duck-billed dinosaurs, particularly in the Grande Prairie region. Arbour said the area may hold even more surprises for paleontology, where skin imprints and fossils are well preserved in the soil and sediment.

"Hopefully people will have more lucky breaks like we did," said Arbour, who also said she chose to study in Alberta because of the rich history of paleontology here. She added that she looks forward to seeing what else will be discovered through the U of A and the Philip J. Currie Museum in Grande Prairie.

"We should all be really proud to come from Alberta. We have a really world class collection," she said.

Arbour said she hopes the work done by the museum will lead to more scientists around the world making similar discoveries, now that they know what they might find.

"It would be great for answering behaviour questions, and open the door for more discoveries."

The real message to take from the find, Arbour said, is that there is a great deal more to learn about dinosaurs than what is already known from their skeletons.

Alberta contains enough fertile ground to make more discoveries about prehistoric life and the millions of years of history buried within it.

Arbour said she anticipates this unique specimen will be incorporated into the university's Dino 101 course, a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) offered through the U of A.

The MOOC offers any interested individuals a chance to learn the basics of dinosaurs, evolution, and prehistoric life from professors and grad students.

"I'm definitely going to take my students to see the collection," Arbour said.

The specimen is currently in reserves in the Faculty of Science at the U of A.

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# U of A budgetary crisis leads campus news in 2013

**Michelle Mark**
NEWS EDITOR • @MICHELLEAMARK



**SAMARASEKERA SCRUM** U of A President Indira Samarasekera has received significant media attention due to the budget. KEVIN SCHENK

### SEVERE BUDGET CUTS LEAVE U OF A REELING FROM DAMAGE

The single most critical piece of news to hit the University of Alberta in 2013 was delivered on March 7 when the Alberta government announced a 7.2 per cent, or $43 million, cut to the university's Campus Alberta grant — the block grant funding the university. Coupled with an existing structural deficit and the loss of the government's promised two per cent increase, the cut proved devastating to the institution, which had to move quickly to control the damage.

The administration was forced to revise its Comprehensive Institutional Plan to accommodate the unexpected loss of funds, and implement a number of cost-saving strategies.

The admission to several arts programs w, two faculties announced enrolment cuts, 121 professors accepted voluntary severance, and the academic and non-academic staff associations were asked to reopen collective agreements for wage and salary reductions. Both associations refused.

But the U of A community breathed a small sigh of relief in November when the government injected $14.4 million back into the university to help alleviate enrolment pressures. The administration hasn't yet determined how the funding will be allocated.

### LISTER HALL NEGOTIATIONS SETTLED OUT OF COURT

A lengthy dispute between the Students' Union and university administration regarding Lister Hall residence was finally resolved in May, less than three weeks before the first court date.

The conflict dates back to July, 2012 when the university implemented major changes to Lister, including alcohol restrictions and a new staffing structure.

The university stated the changes were based on urgent health and safety concerns, but the SU and the Lister Hall Students' Association (LHSA) argued that the university hadn't properly consulted students on the measures, and filed a judicial review in January, 2013.

The May settlement stipulated that the SU and university work to improve the consultation process, and provide data and feedback on the alcohol policy.

### UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS RISE AGAINST TUITION HIKES

To the shock and anger of students across campus, the administration pushed a proposal through governance late in the fall semester to hike international students' tuition by five per cent for the 2014–15 year. The Board of Governors approved the fee increase in a December meeting, despite efforts from the Students' Union to reduce the increase to 3.65 per cent.

The hike was heavily condemned by both international and domestic students, with many openly criticizing the university for treating international students as "cash cows." More than 100 students attended the Dec. 13 BoG meeting to stage a sit-in protesting the vote.

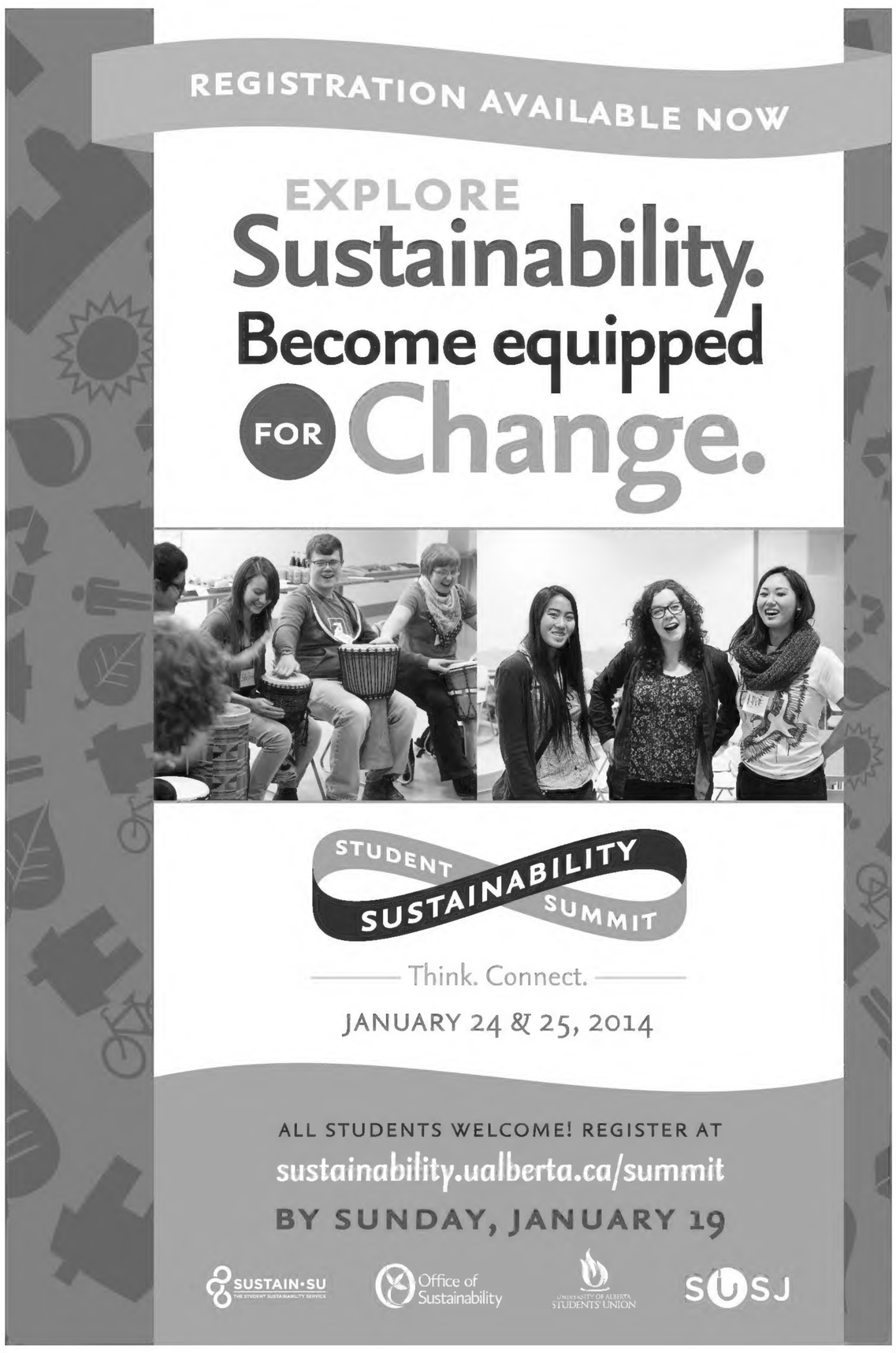
Undergraduate international students will see their tuition increased by an amount between $1,000 and $1,700 next year, depending on the programs they're enrolled in.

### UALBERTA'S $348.5B ECONOMIC FOOTPRINT ANNOUNCED

A much-lauded study conducted by two School of Business professors revealed the combined impact of U of A alumni totals $348.5 billion, surpassing Alberta's $306.7 billion GDP.

The study estimated that U of A graduates have employed one in five working Albertans, founded more than 70,000 organizations around the world and created more than 1.5 million jobs overall.

In a year of financial turbulence and fears that Alberta post-secondary education is being increasingly devalued by the provincial government, the study provided the U of A with welcome proof of the institution's colossal economic footprint.








**DON DOMINATES** Edmontonians resoundingly favoured Don Iveson for Mayor during the 2013 municipal elections. SUPPLIED: MACK MALE

# Edmonton headlines cover new mayor, HUB shooter sentencing

**Caitlin Hart**
GATEWAY WRITER

### CONVICTED HUB MALL SHOOTER RECEIVES HISTORIC SENTENCE

Former armoured car guard Travis Baumgartner, who killed three of his G4S coworkers and critically injured another on the University of Alberta campus in 2012, was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 40 years. The sentence was handed down in September by an Edmonton judge, and sets a precedent as the harshest to be delivered in Canada since execution was abolished in Edmonton in 1962.

In court, Baumgartner pleaded guilty to one count of first-degree murder, two counts of second-degree murder and one count of attempted murder for victims Eddie Rejano, Brian Ilesic, Michelle Shegelski and Matthew Schuman, respectively.

Emotional victim impact statements written by family members were read to a packed courtroom during the proceedings, while Baumgartner remained expressionless in the prisoner's box.

### EDMONTON VOTERS RESOUNDINGLY FAVOUR IVESON FOR MAYOR

Following Stephen Mandel's nine years as Mayor of Edmonton, former city councillor Don Iveson was elected to the top seat in October. Winning an emphatic 62 per cent of the votes, Iveson easily beat out fellow candidates and former councillors Karen Leibovici and Kerry Diotte.

Iveson's campaign focused on developing Edmonton through transit, environment and the arts. But despite Iveson's popularity, particularly among young voters, turnout was a measly 33 per cent, only slightly up from the previous election.

### CITY CENTRE AIRPORT FINALLY SHUTS ITS DOORS

The City Centre Airport closed on Nov. 30 and signaled the end of an era for many local aviation enthusiasts, who were saddened to see the early 20th century landmark taken down.

Known as a local piece of history, the airport formerly dubbed Blatchford Field was Canada's first licensed airport. City Council voted for closure in 2009 to develop the area for housing and transit, as it became clear increasingly more Edmontonians were choosing the Edmonton International Airport south of the city.

### EDMONTON MOURNS LOSS OF EPS DOG

Quanto, a police dog with the Edmonton Police Service, was fatally stabbed Oct. 7 by a fleeing suspect during a pursuit.

Quanto's death sparked both a city- and nation-wide response, including candlelight vigils, heavy media coverage and even a mention in Stephen Harper's throne speech regarding future legislation.

The suspect, Paul Joseph Vukmanich, 27, had recently been released from prison and was on parole. He later faced several charges including cruelty to animals.

### MEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVISTS PROVOKE CITY-WIDE ANGER

Edmontonians saw community-wide outrage during the summer when posters parodying the popular "Don't Be That Guy" campaign appeared downtown and on the University of Alberta campus.

The original campaign sought to educate men about consent and sexual assault, but the new posters, containing "Don't Be That Girl" slogans, targeted women who make false rape accusations.

The local group Men's Rights Edmonton eventually claimed responsibility for the posters, sparking intense debate about sexual assault from students, educators and activists throughout the city.

# Alberta sees floods and cabinet shuffle in 2013

**Michelle Mark**
NEWS EDITOR ▪ @MICHELLEAMARK

### JUNE FLOODS SMOTHER SOUTHERN ALBERTA

Alberta's floods made national and international news over the summer as storms in southern Alberta drenched areas from the Rocky Mountains, to Calgary, to High River with around 350 millimetres of torrential rain over the span of two days.

The storm was pegged as the costliest natural disaster in Canadian history, with an estimated $6 billion in damages, which will be covered by a mixture of provincial government funds, federal government contributions and private insurers.

More than 30 towns declared states of emergency and more than 100,000 residents had to abandon their homes. Nearly seven months later, reconstruction efforts are still ongoing.

### ALBERTA'S "BITUMEN BUBBLE" REPORTEDLY BURSTS

The term "bitumen bubble" sprang into popularity early in 2013 when the provincial government attempted to explain a sudden loss in royalties. Alberta Premier Alison Redford announced last January the province had lost approximately $6 billion in revenue as a result of the bitumen bubble, and would therefore need to make serious cuts in its spring budget.

Critics, however, took issue with the existence of a bitumen bubble and debated whether Redford was just using the term as an excuse to cover up poor fiscal management practices.

Regardless of whether the bubble was genuine or a contrivance, the province presented a budget filled with severe cuts and spending freezes on March 7 that handed down a harsh dose of reality to Albertans — particularly post-secondary students, people with disabilities and seniors.

The term came back into regular use late in 2013 when Finance Minister Doug Horner warned Albertans against getting too comfortable, since "that bubble is back from its holiday."

### PREMIER'S CABINET SHUFFLE YIELDS A HIGH-PROFILE DEMOTION

Alberta Premier Alison Redford made waves throughout the province when she shuffled more than half of the ministers in her cabinet early in December. One of the most notable moves was a demotion for Deputy Premier and Enterprise and Advanced Education Minister Thomas Lukaszuk down to Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour Minister. Dave Hancock was instead named to the Deputy Premier position, as well as Minister for the renamed Innovation and Advanced Education department.




SUPPLIED: RYAN L. C. QUAN

# Crack scandal, train derailment and fracking dominate national news

**Billy-Ray Belcourt**
NEWS STAFF ▪ @BILLYRAYB

### LAC-MÉGANTIC DERAILMENT KILLS 47, INCITES GLOBAL SAFETY DEBATE

Lac-Mégantic, the typically quiet eastern Quebec town, made national and international headlines on July 6 following a devastating train derailment that killed 47 people and ignited a heated debate on rail safety regarding oil transportation.

An unmanned 74-car train carrying crude oil hurled into the town's core and derailed, resulting in a catastrophic blast that was later captured via NASA's satellite imaging from space. A reported 30 buildings, including the library, were obliterated and, when combined with the fatalities, the event was coined the fourth deadliest train disaster in Canadian history.

Investigations are ongoing, but inspectors from Transport Canada issued a search warrant on Dec. 18 to seize records from the Irving Oil head office in New Brunswick. The train's cargo, which was allegedly mislabeled, was carrying oil to Irving's refinery.

Political critics, including NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair, have suggested that an unprecedented increase in the traffic of petroleum products and lenient safety regulations were to blame, prompting a national outcry denouncing current rail transportation standards.

### ROB FORD'S CRACK SCANDAL MAKES INTERNATIONAL HEADLINES

The world was watching as allegations of smoking crack cocaine bombarded Toronto Mayor Rob Ford following consecutive news stories from *Gawker* and the *Toronto Star* on May 16. *Star* reporters Robyn Doolittle and Kevin Donovan claimed to have viewed a video that shows Ford smoking the illegal substance.

Ford was quick to dismiss the stories, prompting *Gawker* to launch a "Crackstarter" campaign to crowdsource the $200,000 requested for the footage. Although the fundraiser reached its target goal, it couldn't obtain the video and distributed the money to four charities instead.

Amid a flurry of city council resignations and demotions and the Oct. 31 revelation that the Toronto Police were in possession of the aforementioned video, Ford admitted to smoking crack on Nov. 5 but wouldn't resign from office. Ford was later stripped of his mayoral powers by Toronto city council. However, Ford has registered to run in the upcoming election.

Montreal-based Influence Communications has declared that the Rob Ford saga has received more media attention in the U.S. than any other Canadian news story since the start of the 21st century, garnering mentions in 14,385 stories, including on late-night television. The company has also stated that the story was prevalent in 75 countries.

### ELSIPOGTOG FRACKING PROTESTS LEAD THE WAY FOR INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE

The Elsipogtog First Nation in New Brunswick declared a Mi'kmaq land reclamation and blockade on Sept. 30 in the wake of a growing anti-fracking movement against shale gas exploration on indigenous territory targeted at SWN Resources Canada.

Elsipogtog Chief Aaron Sock suggested that because the Canadian government had failed to consult with their community regarding the resource development, he issued an eviction notice to SWN Resources Canada on Oct. 1, igniting the protest and nation-wide support of aboriginal self-determination and water protection rights.

This grassroots initiative turned violent on Oct. 17 as RCMP officers bombarded the protest site and used tear gas, pepper spray and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd. Four RCMP vehicles were also allegedly burned. As a result, 40 activists, Mi'kmaq Warriors and First Nations leaders were arrested, with many being released hours later. SWN Resources Canada was subsequently granted an injunction to serve against the protestors.

As of Nov. 18, a New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench judge has ruled in favour of SWN Resources Canada despite attempts to cease all fracking-related testing in the region.

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs' website states that Mi'kmaq territory in New Brunswick has not been surrendered to the Crown in any formalized treaty.




SUPPLIED: WEST ANNEX NEWS

# World news topped by NSA surveillance, Mandela death

**Andrew Jeffrey**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

### NSA LEAKS INFORM PUBLIC OF AMERICAN SURVEILLANCE

Possibly the most controversial story to come out of the United States' government in years came earlier this year when details of the U.S. National Security Agency's global surveillance of both foreign nationals and American citizens were revealed to the public. Ex-NSA contractor Edward Snowden originally leaked the documents in June and is now considered a fugitive by American authorities, leaving his home country after being charged with espionage and government property.

The issue has divided the public as some believe Snowden is a criminal, or worse a national traitor, for making classified information public. Others disagree, seeing Snowden as a whistleblower informing the public of the government's surveillance. Regardless of which side people fall in this debate, much of the public has lost trust in an American government whose global surveillance stretches farther than many before imagined.

### BOSTON MARATHON BOMBINGS GRAB WORLDWIDE ATTENTION VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

In mid-April of this year, the Boston Marathon — an event that attracts thousands of runners every year — experienced devastating setbacks when the explosions of two bombs near the finish line injured hundreds and killed three spectators. This event alone was a tragic way to overshadow what's usually an impressive and inspiring display of athleticism and the human spirit. The story took on even more significance when a manhunt gripped the world's attention.

From April 18 to 19, thousands of law enforcers descended on Boston to find those responsible for the bombings. Chechen brothers Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev were eventually identified as suspects, and while Tamerlan died during a firefight with police, Dzhokhar was arrested and is awaiting trial. The entire event displayed the power — and flaws— of social media usage in reporting and following news, as leads in the case were discussed immediately on Twitter, at times before even news networks could respond to them or verify their accuracy.

### TYPHOON HAIYAN WRECKAGE DEVASTATES THE PHILIPPINES

One of the most tragic stories of the year came in early November when Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines, the deadliest Philippine typhoon in history. At least 6,183 Filipinos were killed as a result of the super-typhoon — one of the strongest storms in recorded history.

More than six million people were displaced as a result of Haiyan, and the Filipino government was criticized for a slow response to relief efforts. But humanitarian aid has poured in from other nations around the world to help the Philippines recover from one of the most devastating natural disasters in years.

### SYRIAN CIVIL WAR AND ONGOING AMERICAN INTERVENTION DEBATE

Following the recent Arab Spring that ignited a number of revolutionary movements, a civil war developed in Syria that has killed hundreds of thousands and cause millions of refugees. In April, some opposition groups accused the Syrian regime of using chemical weapons on its people, and evidence supporting these claims piled up as the year went on.

This story resonated even more in the western world as it created debate over potential U.S. intervention. Some argued it was America's duty to step in and mediate the conflict, while others wanted their people staying far away from what is still seen as a disastrous situation. Both sides of the conflict will participate in peace talks in early 2014, though.



**BOSTON BOMBING** Hundreds were injured and three killed by two bombs that exploded at the Boston Marathon. SUPPLIED: AARON TANG

### NELSON MANDELA'S PASSING MOURNED BY MILLIONS

A major story still present in the public consciousness is the passing of former South African President Nelson Mandela. Mandela is seen as a hero by millions around the world for his part in dismantling apartheid in South Africa, winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. He passed away at the age of 95 from a respiratory infection on Dec. 5. A national mourning period lasted 10 days in South Africa and nations around the world mourned the loss of one of the world's most influential political figures.



# Opinion

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EDITORIAL **COMMENT**

## Feeling guilty about yourself isn't good New Year's goal

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS ARE SOMETHING THAT EVERYONE HAS made at sometime or another. Everyone can use a kick start on those healthy habits they've been meaning to adopt, or hobbies they've wanted to try but never found the time for. Yet, instead of hope and excitement for new prospects and personal growth, January always seems to begin with adverse emotions: guilt, shame, envy and embarrassment for what you might have failed to accomplish the year before, while others appeared to succeed and flourish around you. Every direction you turn at this time of year, there's a conversation about people's current resolutions, how far they got last year and what they'll do differently this time around. In every group, there are also the commiserating folks who accept inevitable defeat early on, shirking the habit entirely. But even the most anti-resolution folks endure snubbed noses of the dedicated, and the internal guilt of extra Christmas pounds and a post-Boxing Day redlining bank account.

But while this culture has become so commonplace, it doesn't mean it's not toxic. As we absorb the energy of the people around us, even the most resolute non-resolutioner starts to wonder if they too should be eating clean and posting selfies of their new ripped abs. For those embarking on New Year's life changes, it becomes far too easy to forget how much what we say influences the people around us.

Couple our own built-in guilt mechanisms with the excessive advertising foisted upon us by fitness centres and spas as January takes off, and it's nearly impossible not to look down at your biceps and wonder when exactly that extra layer of chub decided to append itself around your perfectly toned arms. Add to these two cogs in the guilt-machine the final element of New Year's Shame: the generation overshare initiative to well, overshare. Every social media butterfly is in top form right now, revealing his or her latest bandwagon jumps — "Here goes nothing, #vegetarian2014 #eatclean" — and falls off said wagon —"Ughhh I just ate McDonalds, feeling so fat and gross." Perhaps those you follow on Twitter aren't quite so annoying, but everyone's heard the early January gripes and groans of perky resolutions made and bailed on.

Sadly, it's even easier to overlook the reality that we have no idea about the circumstances of those around us, making our new year's gripes all the more harmful. A flippant, "I feel so fat, that's why I'm going to get ripped this spring," is nothing but an idle complaint, until it falls on the ears of the chubby guy trying not to feel insecure with his extra poundage. And a superfluous self-shaming — "Oh my god, I had two Subway cookies and Edo today, I'm so gross" — could be detrimental to the girl struggling to curb her negative relationships with food and disordered eating. For even the body-happy individual, a creeping sense of inadequacy grows with every absent-minded self-reprimand.

I'm all for health, clean eating and fitness. I've worked in a campus fitness centre for nearly four years and watched as regulars show up without fail at 6 a.m. every morning, maintaining a habit and practice that brought them joy. But I also watched as each January, a gale force of stressed students would flood the centre, fighting over treadmills and impatiently tapping their feet as they waited for the next rowing machine. I don't disrespect this deluge of short-term dedicated troupes setting out upon new fitness regimes with the start of the year.

But sincerely, we have enough stress without piling on the guilt and pressure of keeping up an insane regime for a bikini body or bulging biceps seen in a magazine, heard about in an ad or shoved at us by friends. If a fit body or a healthy eating routine or curbing your spending is truly what will make you happy, then endeavour down the road of your new year's resolution with joy and pride in achieving that for yourself. If you slip up and buy French fries instead of a salad, or you go out drinking instead of saving money, own that. Revel in the slips you make and revel in the enjoyment you got out of doing exactly what you wanted in that moment. But keep your grievances to yourself, because that's who that resolution is for, and that's whom it should matter to.

**Paige Gorsak**
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

EDITORIAL **HAIKU**

## I don't want to be here

Back to school is here
Thus begins the death of fun
Got H1N1

**Darcy Ropchan**
NOT JUST PHYSICALLY ILL




ANTHONY GOERTZ

## letters to the editor

FROM THE **WEB**

### U of A was lucky to get this guy

(Re: "*Fairbanks' path leads to success starting at point guard for U of A*," by Mergim Binakaj, Dec. 4)

A local athlete that can come into the program and was a starter in their first year wasn't offered a scholarship out of high school? For the sake of sport in Canada we should not let these players slip through the cracks. Given the competitiveness of the CIS, U of A is fortunate that another CIS team did not pick up on this one.

**Jerry Dmytrash**
VIA WEB

### You sex show virgins can go fuck yourselves

(Re: "*The Gateway Goes to the 13th Annual Naughty But Nice Sex Show and interviews Ron Jeremy,*" by Darcy Ropchan Ryan Bromsgrove and Katherine Speur, Nov. 26)

Weak representation of the sex show.... if you are a sex show virgin check out the dungeon. If you aren't a sex show virgin you just come for fun and deals cause sorry sex show guys.... it is tired and boring.

**Amie**
VIA WEB

FROM THE **ARCHIVES**

### There are no experts at your paper

The term "freedom of the press" is being taken literally by *The Gateway* staff. Anyone willing to write articles is immediately classed as an expert upon whatever subject he chooses to write on. Usually an individual chooses one topic to expound upon. But lo and behold. In the Xmas issue of *The Gateway* we find an expert on international affairs, campus activities and sports, all in the person of Dick Beddoes. Any man whose conceit warrants that he is an authority on all these matters should find the truth in his own words, "we didn't have a single inkling." From his article "Down Memory Lane," one could gather that his adjectives are as misplaced as his judgements. As he believes that the importance of Jackie Robinson at first base bears in comparison with the decisions of the U.N., it can be seen that his sport reporting is as irrelvant as his reporting on the Palestine situation.

Beddoes is interesting only in the rhetorical effect of his sentences rather than their immediate meaning. Such statements as "the descendants of Yom Kippur" are but banalities, containing no literal meaning, but perhaps seeds of antagonism.

We can excuse his slur on the bravery of the D.P.s if his concept of bravery is measured by the bravery involved in clubbing innocent, defenceless women on the Exodus by British Tommies.

Should the D.P.s be forced to leave Palestine, it will be with honour, knowing they have attempted to achieve a home sanctioned by 52 members of the League of Nations, But when the British leave, it will be in disgrace, knowing they have not been able to maintain their part in the Balfour declaration.

Let us have sports writers who have some knowledge of their subject. Slander requires only a poison heart, but truth requires an educated mind.

**S. Maerov and G. Fasman**
JANUARY 13, 1948

*Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).*

The Gateway *reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature.* The Gateway *also reserves the right to publish letters online.*

*Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.*

*Well, school is back in session and all across campus, students prepare to crack open the books once more. As the new year begins, I've been thinking a lot about changes and choices that we make lately. Does the start of a new year mean that your slate is wiped clean and you get to start over again? Do you get to come back from the horrible things you've done?*

*If you're like me, you've had to do some truly horrible, unspeakable things to survive over this past holiday season. It's best we don't bring them up. It's time to move on and make a new start.*

# Debating what was the most newsworthy story of 2013

## Fighting for wireless users' rights was the biggest news last year



**Hannah Madsen**
POINT

Looking at the top stories from 2013, I definitely would pick the institution of the Wireless Code in December by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission as one of the top stories of the year — if not the top —because it reduces the monopoly that big telecom companies have on cell phone and internet regulation in Canada.

Companies such as Rogers and Telus have been making the unwary consumer's life miserable for years with hidden fees, lengthy contracts and obscure rules hidden in miles of legalese contract writings. The internet is full of testimonials from customers who have had $500, $1,000 or even several thousand dollars worth of extraneous charges slapped onto their phone or wireless bills for small things like going over the minutes on their plan, roaming charges for straying outside their service areas or for breaking contracts in order to go with new providers.

Thankfully, the Wireless Act is changing some of that. Consumers are now free to leave any contract after two years without being penalized — a move which will effectively get rid of those pesky three-year contracts. On top of that, by making contracts more straightforward and changing the way language is used, "unlimited" has to actually mean unlimited now in contract lingo. Larger, more-establihed companies now have to offer the best services and customer service in both spirit and actuality — no more pretending that certain contract options are the best alternative and then hiding terms of service which are advantageous to the provider. Now everything's out in the open, and should be generally more to the consumer's benefit.

Additionally, measures such as requiring companies to provide a two-page-long "condensed" version of a contract that's written in plain English upon request should go a long way towards increasing awareness of what exactly these contracts entail and where the heavy hitters expense-wise lie in these legal documents.

All of this goes towards making big business less powerful in Canada. These huge companies shouldn't have the power that they do, and it's reassuring to see an organization stepping in to promote the rights of the individual so that we can use our phones and internet without fear of repercussion.

**Companies such as Rogers and Telus have been making the unwary consumer's life miserable for years with hidden fees, lengthy contracts and obscure rules hidden in miles of legalese contract writings.**

A person could argue that there were perhaps other stories from this year that were bigger — the U of A's funding cuts, the rising prices of cheese in Edmonton or even the government shutdown in the U.S. could all be considered contenders. However, to me, it's paramount that big businesses not be allowed to run our lives. The government and other large organizations already have too much of a say in what we do — regulating websites that can be accessed, declaring copyright infringements over single and small pirated tracks and watching everything we do. Keeping big companies out of our wallets and other aspects of our lives is just as important as everything else — if not more so.

## Election of Nenshi and Iveson the most important 2013 news story



**Alana Willerton**
COUNTERPOINT

When it comes to choosing the top news story of 2013, Rob Ford and his drug-induced shenanigans may seem like the obvious choice. But if you go a little deeper, you'll find stories whose impact was just as great — but for all the right reasons.

The perfect example of this — and my choice for the top news story of 2013 — was Don Iveson's mayoral win in the 2013 Edmonton municipal elections. While a 34-year old sweeping the race with more than 60 per cent of the votes makes it an impressive story already, the subsequent coverage it spawned about Alberta's political situation heightens its overall importance. The overwhelming support of such a young mayor turned out to be a trend, as four other freshly elected Alberta mayors shared something in common with Iveson: they were all under the age of 43.

News outlets everywhere pounced on this phenomenon. Iveson and Nenshi's elections in particular had *The Globe and Mail* predicting "powerful winds of change" in the province, while others from across the country marveled at what having such a low median age of mayors in the province — 36.5 in Alberta, making it the lowest in the country — said about the trend of young people going into politics. For awhile, Iveson and the other Alberta mayors were the talk of the country, but for reasons we can all be proud of.

Given the impact this story had, it's hard for most other big news stories of the year to compete. While the implementation of a Wireless Act by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission — which frees people from the confines of their cell phone contracts — is certainly interesting and newsworthy, it lacks the national importance that would make it a top story in my book. The potential audience for a story about the Wireless Act isn't quite as wide as it is was for the stories about Iveson and the other Alberta mayors, which should definitely come into consideration when choosing the top story of the year.

**Iveson and Nenshi's elections in particular had *The Globe and Mail* predicting "powerful winds of change" in the province, while others from across the country marveled at what having such a low median age of mayors in the province — 36.5 in Alberta, making it the lowest in the country — said about the trend of young people going into politics.**

In the case of Rob Ford, we have a situation where there's no shortage of coverage and interest about his antics — to the point where the media is publishing stories that are barely even stories. While his initial confessions were obviously newsworthy, the subsequent coverage has grown more and more tabloid-esque as the months have gone on — a fate that coverage of Alberta's mayors thankfully and easily avoided.

In the end, no matter what you compare it to, the story of Iveson's election beats out all others to be the biggest story of 2013. As inspiring as it was momentous, this was a point in Alberta politics that people will talk about for years to come — and that's the true mark of a top story.

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# Don't even try to tell me that global warming is real



**Darcy Ropchan**
OPINION EDITOR



**CLIMATE CHANGE ISN'T REAL** It's too cold outside to be global warming. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: KEVIN SCHENK

Going outside lately is akin to torture, and after nearly a month of bone-biting cold temperatures, the one question I want answered is, "Where are all these global warming doomsayers now?" I took a high school science class once and I have to admit that it just doesn't add up to me. How can global warming be a threat if it's clearly getting colder outside? That's why it's time to put these global warming pushing scientists on ice.

This past holiday season was a nightmare for me. My liberal-minded, hippy relatives kept trying to tell me that I shouldn't burn my giant pile of Styrofoam simply because it supposedly contributes to the global warming phenomenon. I had to spend my entire Christmas break trying to convince them that they're wrong but it was a pointless effort. It shouldn't take a rocket scientist to realize that the global warming fad is nothing but pseudo-science. I mean come on, you want me to believe that spraying a bunch of aerosol containers into the air is supposed to heat the earth up by a couple of degrees each year? Give me a break.

I don't need a fancy degree to tell me that the earth is getting warmer each year. You can learn everything you need to know about the climate from sticking your head outside. Last week it was so cold that my eyelids froze shut when I stepped outside to grab my mail — global warming is the least of our problems.

I'm also sick and tired of the way the media always portrays global warming like it's a bad thing. So what if things get at little hotter around here? Is that really something we should be worrying about? I wish global warming were real so we could all wear t-shirts and shorts in the middle of January — that would be great. Instead, we're made to feel like it's a bad thing and not just a part of god's bigger plan. Oh boo-hoo, some polar bears won't have any precious ice to live on. Big deal. It's called survival of the fittest and driving a gas guzzling, environment-defiling SUV makes me the fittest species out there. It's not my fault if the eco system can't deal with that.

You want some solid proof that I'm right? Donald Trump recently tweeted that global warming was bullshit due to that fact there's been freezing weather hitting the United States recently. I'm sorry, but Donald Trump didn't get to where he is today without learning a few things and I trust him a hell of a lot more than I do any scientist. How could someone that rich not be trustworthy?

**This past holiday season was a nightmare for me. My liberal-minded, hippy relatives kept trying to tell me that I shouldn't burn my giant pile of Styrofoam simply because it supposedly contributes to the global warming phenomenon.**

The same people who are trying to tell me that global warming is real are the same people who tell me that my children and I should get flu shots. But as we all know, flu shots cause autism and a whole other host of disorders. Getting a flu shot is probably the worst thing you could do. Just ask Jenny McCarthy — she knows what she's talking about. I firmly believe that whatever doesn't kill you simply makes you stronger. Sure, this devastating flu could fundamentally harm you in ways worse than death, but you'll be better for it in the end.

Just remember that flu shots and global warming is a bunch of pseudo-science that has never actually been proven by anyone. Don't fall victim to the mainstream media's scare tactics. Global warming isn't real and neither are flu shots.

# #3LF three lines free

**Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree**

Juni has square wheels

who's the unsavory character playing the tuba?

FUCK SALT.

Kalopsia

BOB SAGET.

TITS.

I brought the milkshakes, but the boys weren't there... Except Eric, Fuck this guy.

Books are like knowledge tacos

I wear the most sullied 4.0 crown of all time...

If I'm so perfect, how come we've never gone out on a date yet?

Semen

K.Hill of The Gateway, Rookie League curling is still waiting for its moment of fame in the sports section. Sincerely team Ugly Sweater.

If I were anything,
Anything other than human,
I'd be a dusty old book,
Sitting on a shelf,
On the 3rd floor of Cameron Library. Untouched, overlooked, unsightly,
I'd wait for the day someone would tap into me, Would find me
Cherish me and reread me And can you guess why...? CAUSE I AINT WHO I APPEAR TO BE ..... ;)

Cause I'm bursting with unexpected realities .. BOOM

I AM ME CHHEE

Butts

Cunts

The clitoris isn't real.

#52 on the GB Mens Hockey Team is HOT! Is he single??

If I had a tail, I'd own the night. If I had a tail, I'd swat the flies

oooooh

Our e-sports teams are doing well this year, but of course the sports section wouldn't care about that. . .

Stay out of my life you crazy bitch with your thinly-veiled hateful "joke"

No wonder you have no friends

I can't believe I put up with you

Not good at anything in life?

Why not insult people for no reason in your gateway articles?

That'll show them!

Lol, that's what I get paid to do.

blonde girl in toque at burrito libre and edo. 2 times i saw you looking at me on wednesday. i have toque and brown hair and dig you

Thank you to the Faculty of Arts for handing out snacks before my final! Saved my GPA you have

Elementary schoolkids could do better financial management of CBC, universities, etc. than adults do.

Oh, you're a saucy one

Dear 3lf guy, you're perfect.

What is life.

I am so tired.

Me too, friend.

The holiday issue of The Gateway was HORRENDOUS!

I'm tired of going to bed cold and i blame you. Why aren't you here.

I missed you all!

Sometimes I forget how much I love ice cream.... Then I remember that's why they invented heartbreak

He who slings mud loses ground

You are some of the most angry people I have ever had the displeasure of reading. All this negativity truly hurts me and you should all be ashamed of yourselves.

Rock the Casbah

Has anybody noticed West Pool getting dirty on the walls of the s/pool?

Missed Connection: We made eye contact for a quick second on the bus last Wednesday and then you got off at the next stop. I know it was true love so don't try to tell me it wasn't. I know love when I see it.

January is the most depressing month ever. Mostly because that's when my birthday is.

why does the fucking subway in SUB keep raising its prices?

I'm going to guess that it's probably simple economics.

Whistling past the Graveyard.

Bracken, on Criminal Minds: "It's this show designed to terrify Americans..."

I hate when people compare Mr. Gretzky to god. I mean he's great and all but he's no Gretzky!!

bon soir, bon soir ma ville

I'M RON FUCKING SWANSON

Pharmacology student, likes to ski, wearing argyle

Interesting conversation walking down Whyte on friday.

Wish I'd gotten your name.

Oh god, the one thing I want id for this to be finished. I just can't find the motivation to care anymore.

Balls to the fuckin' wall.

Is it just me or does others think too that some professors are sleeping while they teach !!!

It's not just you, man. Sometimes I totally think the same thing.

I remember when your name was Brock and you had gigantic dreadlocks. I wonder if you found it.

Super Junior's ELF

C-Real and Boyfriend and Shinee's Lucife

Labia

I feel like I may never have sex again. It is truly a terrifying thought.

porn hotties on knees
waiting for him to finish
where's her orgasm?

OH GOD, IT'S CUPCAKES ALL OVER AGAIN

Do you like crunchy or soft cookies?

Oh jesus I'm so fucked for this bullshit

FREE JINGER!!!

I've got 7 kinds of herpes

Is it sad that all I use the library for is the stapler?

To the kid rolling around on his razor scooter in the halls of CAB and Chem, Seriously..... walk like everyone else

Moon, you are the light of my life (I live in perpetual night).

I'm like 90 per cent sure I'm getting broken up with tomorrow

If the invention of a water bottle filler is so great, then why isn't there one in HUB. Also why arn't there Microwaves in HUB either?

You tell em, sister.

Fyi: When you sit at a long table, like in the basement computer lab in Cameron, EVERYONE can feel your phone vibrating. Keep it in mind, thanks!

I wish I wasn't such a lazy bastard

Cozy up to the toilet
Face stuck to the floor
Bad expectations
That I was trying to ignore
Job had such patience

Mr. X, put down The Sun Also Rises, stop listening to Cohen and the Cure, and cheer the eff up. You do have a nice smile, for those who have been fortunate enough to see it.

I wish you would all just go away

Apparently I should have taken ANTHRO 101. Sounds like it's full of really hot guys.

TLF is the best fucking thing the Gateway has ever done during my six years at this school.

people on the bus always look so damn SAD! maybe walk and take in some vitamin D instead of taking the bus that one block to school...

This is taking way to god damn long

... Guess my last "three free lines" submission didn't make the cut. Darn...

Probably because it wasn't funny or inciteful

A huge bag of dicks

BLTS ARE DELICIOUS

I am living proof that long distance relationships can and do work. 20months apart and still going strong. What would I do without you? I love you, my fiance, my dream come true H.H....[100 day countdown] CAN'T WAIT!

I'm breaking up with you

The Gateway *reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF submission it deems racist, sexist, libellous, homophobic or otherwise hateful in nature. Just because this is a place to call out all the stupid people you meet in your daily travels, doesn't mean you can say hurtful things.*



ALUMNI ASKED & ANSWERED

with

Karina Birch

'99 BCom

**Current Occupation:**
Co-owner, Rocky Mountain Soap

**What do you miss most about being a U of A student?**
I miss the innovation and learning.

**Favourite campus memory?**
At a Halloween pub crawl my friends and I made an RV out of a cardboard box and we drove it around campus...there still may be remnants on campus somewhere.

**What's the one piece of advice you'd give a current U of A student?**
Take one class a year that's brain candy – not related to your degree. I took classes on Pharmacology, Drama and Sex. Hmm...that's an interesting combo now that I think about it.

**Best procrastination activity?**
Visiting my friend in graphic design – they had loads of snacks and interesting projects going all the time.

**Favourite course/professor?**
I can't remember the professor but it was a Negotiations class in which we had to simulate real negotiations. I remember always wanting to win, which wasn't the point. I took it way too competitively.

**Favourite secret makeout/study spot?**
Rutherford Library.

**What did you do to help you stay sane during exam time?**
Lots of yoga.

**What did you learn at the U of A that applies in your life now?**
Accounting is not my strength, so I need to compensate for that in my business. I also learned a love of yoga. It really got me through stressful times then and continues to do so.

alumni.ualberta.ca/students

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA ALUMNI


# Four New Year's resolutions that are worth sticking to this year



**Opinion Staff**
GROUP COMMENTARY

The new year is in full swing and people are making pledges to better themselves. But let's be honest, most New Year's resolutions are too hard and not worth doing. That's why *The Gateway* has come up with a list of some resolutions you should make.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: KEVIN SCHENK

### *Andrew Jeffrey*

Self-improvement is all well and good, and for most people, some aspect of it would surely make a great choice for their own new year's resolution. But personally, coming from a point of view that needs so little change already, what's truly important becomes crystal clear. And that's cash.

In 2014, I'll go to the gym when I feel like it, I'll perform better in school if my professors know what they're doing, I guess, and I'll be nicer to other people when they stop being so shitty. Those parts of your life are so unimportant when you finally take a look at the bigger picture. Instead, when I see that bigger picture, it reveals that cash rules everything around me.

So for the next calendar year, my resolution is to find a way to bring in more cash flow to my life. Specifically, my resolution is to find a better paying gig than this stinking newspaper. I hate to break it to you, kids, but student journalism doesn't pay the bills. No matter how many news stories our team here breaks, it doesn't change the fact that I won't get a raise from any of it — which begs the question, what's the point of breaking them at all?

In 2014, I'd love to sell out. That's the dream after all, to stop focusing on silly things like dreams and instead trade it all in for more dolla dolla bills, y'all. It's important that as we becomes older and wiser, we can look past what we used to foolishly believe was important in our youth. The 2013 me was a chump who valued seeking truth and informing the U of A population. The new 2014 me is ready to throw all of that away for that sweet, sweet feeling of paying all my bills on time and filling my car's gas tank all the way. Goodbye forever, student journalism. Hello, new higher paying job. Construction worker? Full-time barista? Yacht owner? Whatever the position may be, it won't matter as long as the salary increases.

### *Hannah Madsen*

This year I'm planning on really breaking the mold — by staying in bed for as long and often as possible.

Not only will this be more efficient, because I won't waste time leaving my apartment, but my bed is comfy and warm so I will never have to be cold again. The first step of my grand scheme is to completely change my routines — why settle for just working from home when I can also shop for groceries and clothes from home? There's no good reason, honestly. Especially when prices online are often better than prices in-store. As of February, I will only buy things that I need online and get them delivered to my door. The next phase of my plan is to develop a robotic, magnetic levitating platform that can go from my bed to the door so that I can pick up delivered packages without needing to get up myself. Once that's underway and I've devised a method of automating my door opening and closing, I'll have all I need to guarantee that I will never need to get out of bed for anything but the absolutely necessities 2014 definitely won't be something to get out of bed for, as far as I'm concerned.

### *Darcy Ropchan*

For the past few years, I've made the same trite New Year's resolutions: lose weight, do better in school and try to be a better person. Unfortunately, my willpower to complete these tasks only lasts until about the last week of January. That's why this year, I'm embarking on a new journey of self-improvement. I'm going to stay unemployed for an entire year.

You may be wondering what's so fantastic and fulfilling about being unemployed. The real question is, "What isn't great about it?" I shouldn't have to spend another year busting my ass, causing myself unintentional stress and pretending I like talking with my coworkers. In 2014, I'm going to do something I should have done a long time ago and stop working. I firmly believe that I wasn't meant to work some buttoned down nine-to-five job.

The one and only flaw in my plan for the upcoming year is that I won't have a steady source of cash coming in, but like most problems in life, I'll worry about it when it becomes a serious problem. After all, you can't put a price on being able to dodge work and sleep all day.

### *Cameron Lewis*

I hate to sound like a pessimist or come across as judgmental, but we're a week into 2014 and I'm pretty sure most New Year's resolutions have already failed. The gym was packed on Jan. 1, and by Jan. 5, not so much. That's because New Year's resolutions are unrealistic ideals that set people up for failure. Simply put, the idea of choosing something at the beginning of the year that's going to completely change your life in a short period of time is a horrifically bad idea.

Rather than waiting for some arbitrary date to make a massive lifestyle switch that will end up collapsing on itself in two weeks, people should focus on doing small, random things that make their lives more positive. For example, losing 30 pounds in one month is not realistic and choosing to do so in the middle of winter is a terrible idea because nobody wants to drag themselves out of their bed at six o'clock in the morning at the best of times, let alone when it's -30 degrees outside. Rather than setting yourself up for failure, write a list of 10 easily achievable, everyday things. Things like sitting in a hot tub whenever you have a chance, wearing a banana costume to school or work, not wearing sweatpants in public and complimenting random people on the LRT will surely lead to a more positive, fulfilling life rather than a colossal failure that sets you back even further into mediocrity.

# 5 THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR IN 2014

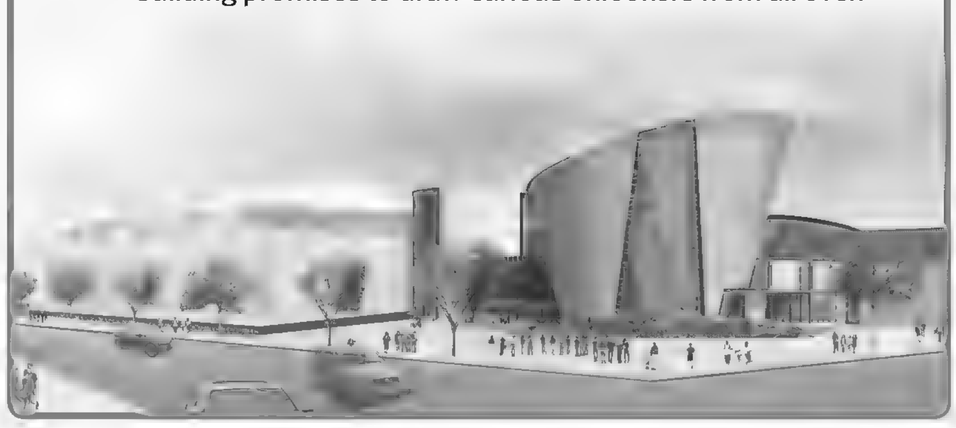
Words by Alana Willerton ▪ Design by Anthony Goertz

Every year, most of us spend much of December and January in reflection. We think back on what we've accomplished in the last year, make best/worst lists and come up with new resolutions to hopefully make the coming year the best we've ever had. But while looking back on the year past is all well and good, we also need to look to the future. So as you prepare to put 2013 behind you and face the new year, here are five events, people and issues to keep an eye out and ear to the ground for at the University of Alberta in 2014.

## 1

### PAW Centre – Fall/Winter 2014

For the past year, students have watched as the U of A's brand new Physical Activity and Wellness (PAW) Centre has been built from the ground up alongside the Van Vliet Centre near SUB. As long as things continue going according to plan, U of A students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community will finally get a peek inside the finished product when the physical activity and wellness facility opens in the Fall/Winter of 2014. The space will feature a variety of components such as a fitness centre, a climbing centre and student service spaces, and the sleek, modern look of the building promises to draw curious onlookers from all over.



## 2

### The Alberta Budget 2014 – March, 2014

When the 2013 Alberta Budget was announced on March 7, 2013, the post-secondary community was left in a state of shock. Government officials announced that the university's Campus Alberta grant would receive a 7.2 per cent cut, for a total of $43 million. The subsequent discussions, protests and negotiations have been the talk of the post-secondary community ever since, and the U of A has had to implement several cost-cutting measures to make up for the loss of funds. With so much controversy coming from last year's announcement, there's no doubt that all eyes will be on the government this March when we receive word on the 2014 Alberta budget.

## 3

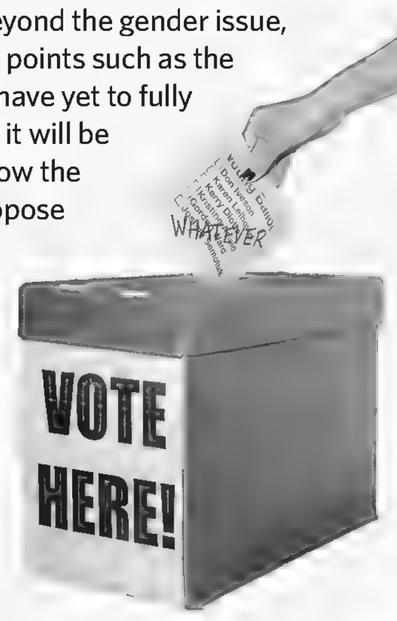
### The appointment of Dave Hancock as our new Minister of Advanced Education

Poor Thomas Lukaszuk. As the former Deputy Premier and Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education, he was the one forced to deal with the wrath of students from across Alberta after the provincial government announced the post-secondary cuts in 2013. After dealing with all of that student outrage, he was replaced this past December by Dave Hancock, the former Minister of Human Services. Although Hancock is the fourth minister to take on this post since Redford became premier, this isn't his first rodeo — he previously served as the Minister of Education from 2004–06 as well. Hancock will be one to watch in the coming months, especially with the 2014 Alberta budget announcement quickly approaching in March.

## 4

### Students' Union Elections – March 6 - 7

Although Students' Union elections are an annual affair at the U of A, this year's elections promise to be one of the most interesting in recent memory. Last year, the process was heavily criticized for not having any female candidates running for office — a fact the SU and other organizations on campus are hoping to change this March. Even beyond the gender issue, important platform points such as the Fall Reading Week have yet to fully come to fruition, so it will be interesting to see how the new candidates propose to tackle these leftover platform items. Make sure to vote on March 6 or 7, and find out who will earn the top student government positions at the university.




## 5

### Track and Field CIS Championships – March 6 - 8

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. That'll be the motto for the U of A's track and field team this year, as they host the CIS Championships for a second year in a row. It's been more than a decade since they last won a CIS Championship back in 2001, though the Pandas and Golden Bears managed to finish in eighth and 14th place last year, respectively. 2014 is a whole new chance for the team, as they strive to capture that elusive gold medal. Although the Bears currently haven't quite cracked the CIS top 10, the Pandas team finds themselves in eighth place, and there's still plenty of time for them to fight their way to the top before they get the chance to compete on their own turf.




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# Arts & Culture

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**Volunteer**
A & C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-0 4, SUB. C'mon by!

## social intercourse

COMPILED BY Jennifer Robinson

### *Mack & Mabel*

Music and lyrics by Jerry Herman
Directed by Kate Ryan
Starring Jeff Haslam, Patricia Zentilli, Amber Bissonnette, Frederick Zbryski, Jason Hardwick, Steven Angove and Leah Paterson
Thursday, Jan. 9 – Saturday, Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday matinées at 2 p.m. (no shows Sunday through Wednesday)
The Varscona Theatre (10329 83 Ave.)
Tickets $16.75 for students at tixonthesquare.ca

*Mack & Mabel*, a musical that had its original run on Broadway in 1974, is making its way to Edmonton. The musical contains music and lyrics by Jerry Herman and book by Micheal Stewart, who previously worked together on the musical classic *Hello Dolly!*. The show centres around Hollywood director Mack Sennett and waitress turned actress Mabel Normand, chronicling the ups and downs of the pair's relationship through a series of flashbacks. Set in the roaring '20s, the musical will be staged as a concert rather than the big extravaganza that was the original, though the evening still promises plenty of incredible choreography and stellar vocals.

### *Clara's Dream: A Ukrainian Folk Ballet*

Based on E.T.A Hoffman's *The Nutcracker*
Friday, Jan. 10 – Saturday, Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m.
Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (11455 87 Ave.)
Tickets $32.65 – $84.65 at ticketmaster.ca

The tale of *The Nutcracker* has been around for decades, its most well-known form being the ballet that seems to pop up every year at Christmas time. The timeless classic is back, but this time with a new perspective. Still set to Tchaikovsky's original composition, this time the story will be told through Ukrainian dance. Season 3 *So You Think You Can Dance* finalist Jeff Mortensen has been brought in to play the nutcracker, while Ukraine-native Tetiana Tsygankova will play Clara in her first visit to Canada. The collaboration between Edmonton's Ukrainian Shumka Dancers and Kyiv's Virsky Ukrainian State Folk Dance Company brings lavish sets and costumes and aspires to be a groundbreaking production.

### *CBGB*

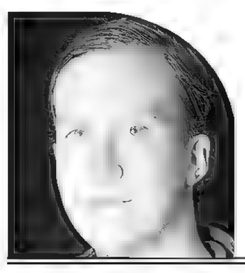
Written by Jody Savin and Randall Miller
Directed by Randall Miller
Starring Alan Rickman, Malin Ackerman, Justin Bartha, Johnny Galecki and Ashley Green
Thursday, Jan. 9 at 9:30 p.m.
Metro Cinema at the Garneau (8712 109 St.)
Tickets $10 at the door

This film has all the ingredients of one good party: sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll. The biopic tells the story of the popular New York club CBGB and its creator, Hilly Kristal, and traces the venue's history from its original opening as a country, bluegrass and blues club through its transformation into the so-called birthplace of rock 'n' roll. The film's star-studded cast includes Malin Akerman, Justin Bartha, Johnny Galecki and Ashley Green. *CBGB* will also feature the music and depictions of famous rock and rollers who frequented the club in the '70s, including the likes of Joey Ramone, Blondie, Patti Smith, The Police, The Talking Heads and Television. Shown at many festivals over the past year — including New York's CBGB Music & Film Festival — this film is a must see for any fan of the club or the bands that it showcases.



SUPPLIED

# Unheard of gems to rival the famed names of the last year of video games



**Brad Kennedy**
A&C STAFF ▪ @HELLA_BRAD

2013 was the year of hype for video games. Several of the strongest series on the market put out sequels last year, including *Bioshock Infinite*, *Grand Theft Auto V* and *Saints Row IV*, and were all released to almost universal acclaim. But was their celebration justified? *Saints Row IV* was a literal re-skin of its predecessor, albeit a re-skin with a hilarious new plot and a cavalcade of sci-fi pop-culture jokes. *GTA V* was praised for its action-packed storytelling and dynamic characters, but when one female reviewer dared to criticize the ubiquitous themes of vile misogyny running throughout, gamers petitioned for her to lose her job. And *Bioshock Infinite*? That was less a game than it was a guided tour through a simulated art gallery, with characters more racist and insane than the ghost of John Wilkes Booth — yet across 68 mainstream game review websites, it scored an average 9.4 out of 10.

The growing trend of flashy, high-profile sequels being guaranteed successes in spite of their many glaring flaws raises an important question: have we lost sight of what makes a video game truly great? So without further ado, here are a few electronic gems of 2013 that gamers might have overlooked amidst the high-profile mainstream promotion.

**Best Videogame Based On Filing Paperwork: *Papers Please***

By all conventional logic, *Papers Please* shouldn't be as much of a good time as it is. You serve as an unnamed male citizen of the Arstotzkan Empire, employed by lottery to rigorously scan and verify documents at the border crossing station in your dystopian, communist nation. It's your job to make sure illegal immigration in your sector grinds to a halt, and if you fail, your impoverished family will starve and freeze even worse than they already do in your cheap, class-8 government apartment.

In spite of all its Cold War doom and gloom, *Papers Please* is an intricate and engaging experience. The charm and humour of the characters draw you in with each passport you process. Soon, you're reading your employee handbook to pass the time, determined to serve your country and provide for your family. Or maybe you begin working undercover with the resistance, falsifying papers for revolutionaries. Or maybe you set up a smuggling business with a few regular border-crossers, with plans to flee the country yourself.

With 20 different endings to unlock and dozens of stories to hear, *Papers Please* is a fascinating kind of game; one that defies the genres of the medium and forces us to think differently about our entertainment.

**Best Non-linear Storytelling Game Hated By Angry Gamers: *Gone Home***

The online gaming community seemed to collectively lose its mind the first time someone said *Gone Home* was a great game. Hordes of angry gamers took to message boards and online review aggregators like Metacritic to post negative reviews, calling it "a game that shouldn't be a game," designed by people who "don't understand simple psychology." They then went on to explain how the lack of any sort of death, murder or violent drama made it feel "anticlimactic," "boring" and that they "weren't invested" in the story.

The reason so many genres and styles of game exist is because simply conforming to expectations is boring. Playing the same game over and over — albeit with a slightly different plot and title — isn't a worthwhile gaming experience. *Gone Home* tells a touching, heartfelt and well-developed story about a realistic family with real-world problems and conflicts. It's human and honest, and players are able to connect with it on an empathetic level rather than reveling in fantastical shock value or cheap thrills. It cultivates the atmosphere and suspense of a high-calibre mystery game while still remaining fully grounded in its narrative's authenticity. The fact that it's not an actual murder mystery or some kind of warped, sordid nightmare should be celebrated, not derided, and anyone who doesn't understand that doesn't understand how to tell a story.

**Best Multiplayer Burglary Simulator: *Monaco: What's Yours Is Mine***

Incredible level design, hilariously clever characters and an insidious criminal plot that would make Keyser Söze's head spin are just a scant few examples of what makes *Monaco* such an excellent game. The top-down view lends an interesting dynamic to gameplay, allowing you to map out each floor of your heist as you undertake it, and plan out the paths of guards and teammates alike as you stealthily progress through theatrical heists in one of the world's wealthiest cities.

Where the game truly shines, however, is in its multiplayer mode, which allows you and three friends to choose from a roster of eight master thieves, each with their own diverse skills and play styles. You can then carry out your burglaries as a cohesive team, working in tandem to remain undetected and steal everything, down to the change in the night watchman's pockets. Or, you could load up with shotguns and tear your way through each level, grabbing lootbags as fast as you can while being chased by a veritable army of private security forces. Each level is clearable in a variety of ways, and the numerous awards for certain successes, such as beating the level without casualties or collecting every coin, ensure that replay value and a constantly expanding difficulty curve are built neatly into the game for whenever you're ready to take them on.

**Best Narrative-Driven Game Without Comprehensible Language: *Brothers: A Tale Of Two Sons***

*Brothers* is one of the most charming and elegant games I've played in a long time. The gameworld's stunning, expansive vistas hold equal measures of breathtaking views and clever puzzles, while heartwarming moments of storytelling wait hidden in each of the game's 12 secret achievements. The narrative of two young Nordic brothers on a quest to save their dying father is beautifully crafted, and a startling amount of emotion and detail is communicated entirely through a nonsensical gibberish dialogue — something that, while initially confusing, swiftly grows on you until you're fully capable of understanding what's being communicated.

The controls are a simple yet challenging ambidextrous controller configuration, which manages to keep you engaged with both characters at any given moment. One thumb pad-and-trigger combo controls each brother, forcing you to maintain a complicated half-focus on each hand to successfully guide the boys safely through their adventure.

The story is short, sweet and tragically succinct, playable in a mere three or four hours of free time. But regardless of its brevity, the ending is beautiful enough to bring tears to your eyes.



SUPPLIED

# *The Silence Project* reaches for universality in noiseless theatre

THEATRE PREVIEW

## *The Silence Project*

CREATED BY, STARRING > Julie Ferguson, Elizabeth Hobbs, Elliott James, Andréa Jorawsky and Sheiny Satanove

WHEN > Runs Wednesday, Jan. 8 Monday, Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 12 matinée at 12:30 p.m.

WHERE > The TACOS Space (10005 80 Ave.)

HOW MUCH > $16.75 $21.75 at tixonthesquare.ca; Jan. 8 pay-what-you-can

**Annie Pumphrey**
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @APUMPHREY

Imagine your favourite television show, film or play. Now imagine it with all of the words and music taken away. It's hard to think of any form of entertainment that doesn't use dialogue or music to support and carry the story. But Edmonton's Punctuate! Theatre is challenging the norms of sound in their new production, *The Silence Project*: a play performed in complete silence.

*The Silence Project* follows a solitary masked traveller as they step out of reality and into a bizarre realm. Lost and isolated, the unnamed traveller stumbles across strange characters in this foreign world, and from these characters, acquires the knowledge and wisdom needed for self-actualization. All of this is portrayed without a single word.

"It really becomes a lot of what the audience interprets it as," says Julie Ferguson, who plays the traveller. "If you bring it down to the most basic human level of a story that everyone can follow, then it doesn't matter what language you speak, it doesn't matter what your background is, it doesn't matter what your culture is, it doesn't matter what lens you see the world through, because it's a human story."

As Ferguson explains, the nameless characters and wordless communication allow the audience members to insert themselves into the world of the play. Being largely movement based, and with the actors relying on breath alone for their cues, spectators can apply their own interpretations to the story, giving each person an individualized experience of the performance.

"(It's) this idea of somebody feeling completely lost in their own world, and that's really something universal that we all feel, and that's what we're trying to show."

In her fourth year in the U of A's BFA Stage Management program, Ferguson is also a technical director and stage manager for Punctuate! Theatre. *The Silence Project* is the first play this season for Punctuate! Theatre, and was formed collectively using every member of the company. With its all-inclusive creation, the process is a big change for Ferguson. Instead of performing the behind-the-scenes work for the production, she's performing on stage.

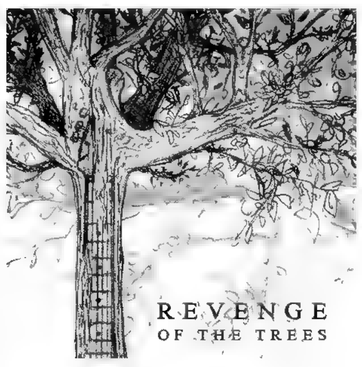
"Normally, I'm a stage manager who gets to watch, but now I can say what I'm interested in seeing or what I'm interested in doing and be able to actualize it," she says.

Each of the five performers in *The Silence Project* — all U of A alumni — have challenged themselves not only by creating a piece of theatre that plays out in complete silence, but also by abandoning the preconceived notions of what their roles are in the theatre company and collaborating as one. These risks have resulted in an unusual style of play that will be a remarkable experience for the theatre-goer.

"This is something completely different for our company," Ferguson says. "Never before have we all had such an input and such investment in our own characters and in our story.

"It will be something that most people probably have never seen before, (and) an experiment for the audience as much as it is an experiment for us."

ALBUM REVIEW




# Revenge of the Trees

## *The Revenge of the Trees EP*

Root Cellar Productions
revengeofthetrees.bandcamp.com

**Connor MacDonald**
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Reaching through the soil of the Edmonton independent rock scene and set to branch out into the further domains of the musical world beyond, genre-jumping Revenge of the Trees display total aversion to conformity on their first EP. Through haunting arrangements, withering lyrical work and technical proficiency, the local rockers deliver a four-track EP that anticipates a future fraught with inspiring musical potential. Merging provocative prog rock with lofty and energetic indie-pop stylings, the group has yielded a shrewd musical pastiche. It's intense yet ambient, and laden with intensely memorable melodies, the band proves itself to be off to a damn good beginning.

*The Revenge of the Trees EP* sets off to a rollicking start with the confounding "Fortress Hotel," which elevates from an eerie whistling melody into a driving and powerful number. Mikey Muscat delivers Marxist rhetoric as he crescendos into lyrics such as, "No one is illegal and everyone is free / Stop riding on the back of that crooked crown / You know it's driving us into the ground." The provocatively energetic zeal of percussionist Nich Davies is woven flawlessly with meditative guitar riffs and a pounding bass line to yield a wild musical tapestry that presents an unnerving but satisfying start to the album.

The record makes a change in pace with an unexpected jump from the driving demeanour of the first track into the soulful elegy, "If You're A Man." The sultry vocal work of front man Mikey Muscat is backed by the impassioned, Clapton-esque guitar playing of Matt King. This stylistic passage from the aggressive debut track into this fiery-hearted ballad displays that the band is as musically versatile as they are technically competent.

The EP reaches its zenith with the climactic "Bones of Clay." Through the climb to the track's horn-driven apex, the band reveals the rhythmically devious partnership between bass player Kurtis Cockeril and drummer Nich Davies. This intense rhythmic relationship, created through a technically ornate time signature, ultimately carries the song through its two definitive movements. Never once losing focus, Revenge of the Trees showcases their admirable songwriting skills. The record showcases the band's ethos; devoid of pretense and ego, but filled with spirit. Herein lies the group's creed for great composition: abstract musical prowess heightened by soul and passion.

# fashion streeters

COMPILED & PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Christina Varvis**




GATEWAY: > Describe what you're wearing.

DANIEL: > My jeans are the Left Hand Twill by Naked and Famous, which I got from Kicks, a store in Southgate that recently closed. My jacket is from Colour Blind, a store on Whyte, and my cardigan and shirt are from Mexx. Also, my scarf and boots are from Urban.

GATEWAY: > Describe your style and what inspires it.

DANIEL: > I like looking through *GQ* for inspiration. (My style is) classic, yet modern at the same time, using various textures and layers.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.






SUPPLIED

# 365 exciting days of pop culture madness and magic



Arts & Culture Staff

GROUP COMMENTARY

As we embark on new beginnings with the advent of 2014, lest we forget the glory and the tragedy of the past year of pop culture. From Jennifer Lawrence being a complete badass to ridiculous celebrity baby names, it's been a year of extreme highs and desperate lows in the pop culture universe. Four dedicated souls of the *Gateway* A&C staff sat down to offer praise for the moments that made us weep with joy, and layer contempt onto those that made us cringe. Happy new year!

## *Annie Pumphrey*

**Best: The Harlem Shake**

A lone figure with a downturned head shakes his booty in the corner of an empty room — it's the beginning of a video that we all know too well now. In early February 2013, a YouTube video went viral, throwing the world into a thrusting, krumping, butt-jiggling fury. Over the span of a few months, a tsunami of so-called Harlem Shake videos washed over the internet, each one with its own distinctive theme. The now famous song, released a year prior by American DJ Baauer, features cat-like growling, heavy bass and underlying synth. With over 40,000 uploads, there's a Harlem Shake for practically every category that you can think of: nuns, firefighters, boy scouts, mascots, hockey players — the list goes on. Entertaining, contagious and edgy, the Harlem Shake has become a universal language that brings together people from all walks of life.

What have we learned from this viral sensation? It's plain and simple: everybody's got a booty — and all they want to do is shake it.

**Worst: Lady Gaga's "Do What U Want"**

2013 has been a promising year for the fight against the objectification of women's bodies. India cracked down on sexual assault and passed a stricter anti-rape bill. Facebook agreed to keep a close watch for those posting statuses and jokes about rape. Jennifer Lawrence set an example for young women by refusing to diet or change her body to Hollywood standards.

Unfortunately, we still have a long way to go: this year, Lady Gaga released her new album *Artpop*, which features the song "Do What U Want." Though undeniably catchy, the song blatantly objectifies women's bodies, with a repetitive chorus of, "Do what you want with my body." It's bad enough that television, film and magazines are bursting with sexualized images of women, now we have a hit song that's promoting it too. In the new year, let's hope for pop stars who are positive role models, not ones who tell young women that their bodies are there to be used. When it comes to choosing the most unfortunate example of pop culture in 2013, Lady Gaga takes the prize.

## *Kieran Chrysler*

**Best: Dylan Sprouse's Nudes**

2014 begins with the memory of Dylan Sprouse's naked body lingering fresh in our minds. Racy photos of *The Suite Life of Zach and Cody* star leaked in mid-December, and they quickly made their rounds on the internet. For some, this meant a long forgotten crush coming full circle into adulthood. However, more impressive than the obvious hours Sprouse logged at the gym was how the former Disney star handled the situation.

Instead of suing and calling for the removal of the pictures off the internet, Sprouse made light of the situation on Twitter, cracking jokes while admitting he learned from his mistake. A day later, he took to Tumblr to write an insightful reflection on how society perceives the human form, how to evaluate who you're sending racy pictures to and how it all began as a demonstration of newfound self-confidence after bulking up. So, take a page from Mr. Sprouse as you finalize your New Year's resolutions: evaluate your relationships, love yourself and press send on all the nudes you've been taking since your "New Year, New Me" Facebook post (and subsequent ingestion of smoothies and salads).

**Worst: Amanda Bynes**

The first half of the year was dominated by Amanda Bynes' sudden and powerful presence. Armed with a blonde wig and cheek piercings, Bynes was found on the cover of every magazine and webpage for months. Her infractions covered everything from DUIs to asking Drake to murder her vagina on Twitter. After lighting a woman's driveway on fire, she was diagnosed with schizophrenia and hospitalized, then placed in rehab. Since being released from rehab in early December, little has been heard about how she's doing.

While it seemed like a cry for attention, after a period of time it was clear that Bynes was not well. The farce that was made about a woman's obvious mental illness was the lowest point of the year. Instead of showing empathy, her illness was turned into a perverse sideshow act. Media outlets continued to make a mockery of her antics, placing her life on display for anyone to dissect. But instead of ignoring the fact that she was clearly unwell and just needed help, fans flocked to Twitter, praising her antics and strange selfies. Predictably, as soon as she was removed from public scrutiny, she was immediately forgotten and we moved on to the next celebrity meltdown.

## *Kate Black*

**Best: Tilda Swinton napping**

You may only know Tilda Swinton as the pointy-looking nymph actress that was in *The Chronicles of Narnia* movies. The Scottish actress usually keeps a low profile, but somehow managed to snag the most iconic pop culture moment of the year — by sleeping.

In March, Swinton chilled out in a glass box for about six-and-a-half hours at a time at the Museum of Modern Art, in an exhibit titled The Maybe. There was no published schedule for the exhibit, nor did the museum staff know which days she was "performing" on. Rather, Swinton just showed up whenever she felt like it. But in a released statement from MoMA, this was all part of the beauty of the exhibit, noting that "those who find it chance upon it for themselves, live and in real — shared — time: now we see it, now we don't." Well, okay then.

The best part is that this isn't even the first time Swinton has slept in a glass box for artistic merit. In 1995, Swinton napped at London's Serpentine Gallery for seven days in a row.

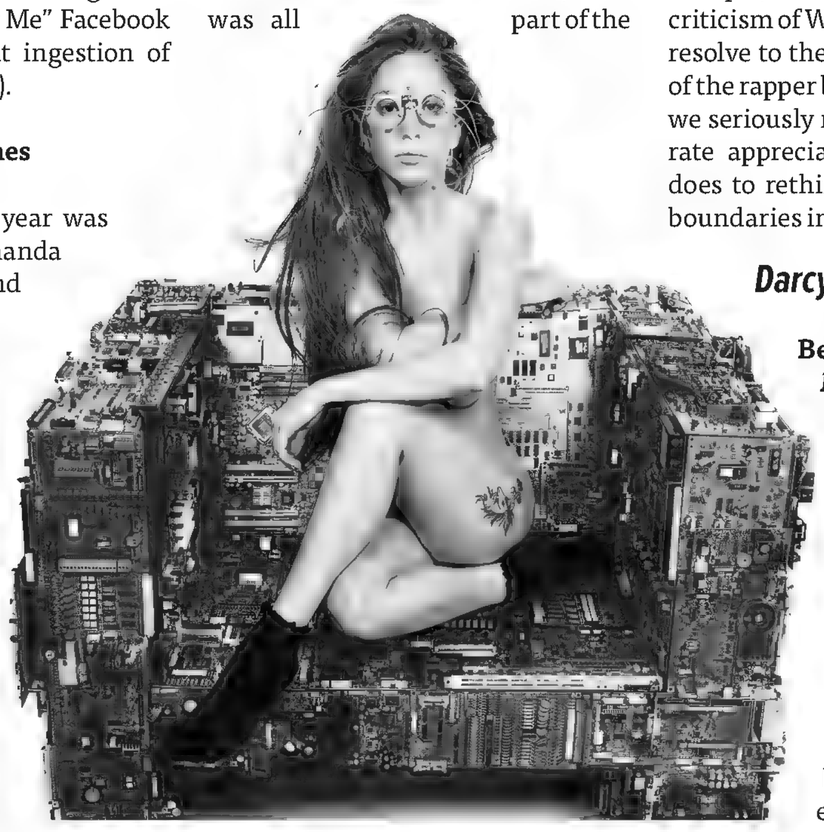
There's probably some deeper meaning to The Maybe — a depiction of our obsession with scrutinizing celebrities or a celebration of life's simplicity ... maybe. But who really cares. Napping is wonderful, and so is Tilda Swinton. You go, Tilda.

**Worst: Kanye West haters**

On this year's *Yeezus* album, Kanye West declared that he's a god — though a lot of people tend to disagree, apparently. From Jimmy Kimmel ridiculing his passionate September BBC interview to endless "Why 'Bound 2' is the Worst Music Video Ever" blog posts, Yeezy's haters have become almost as enigmatic as the outspoken rapper himself. But this constant dismissal of West's bold statements as "cocky" and experimental moves as "artless" clogged the flow of real conversation about his work and are definitely the worst thing about pop culture this year.

The knee-jerk reaction to instantly hate on the green-screened "Bound 2" music video, for example, looks past the fact that West is an artistic perfectionist, and would be damned to make a "bad" music video by accident. What West's haters don't realize is that they're falling into the trap of an artist who is completely in control of what he's doing.

All artists should be subject to fair critique, of course. But when every criticism of West this year seemed to resolve to the same, tired argument of the rapper being a pompous bigot, we seriously missed out on an accurate appreciation for the work he does to rethink racial and cultural boundaries in North America.



## *Darcy Ropchan*

**Best: Season five of *Breaking Bad***

This past fall, I had the incredibly depressing task of saying goodbye to a loyal friend. I'm talking about *Breaking Bad*, of course.

The last eight episodes of the final season not only met, but far exceeded my expectations for the show. Each episode was packed to the brim with excitement, drama and a wealth of character development — making me feel as if each character was a friend I got the privilege to know over the course of six years. With extreme stakes looming over intense decisions throughout the season, by the end of each episode, I was rolling on the floor and begging for just a little more as the credits rolled.

The series finale may have been the most perfect ending of any television series. It provided just enough action and suspense to keep dedicated viewers glued to their screens, while tying up every loose end and leaving no ambiguity as to where characters end up. For once, a series finale left me feeling completely satisfied.

The only problem is that *Breaking Bad* may have ruined TV for me forever. It's set the bar so high that I don't think I'll ever be able to see a show the same way again. Despite that, I'm happy to have had *Breaking Bad* in my life. Goodbye old friend, I'll miss you.

**Worst: Season eight of *Dexter***

It's no secret to any loyal viewer of *Dexter* that almost everything following season four has been terrible. But the series finally ended in 2013 with its eighth season, and despite all the hype, it was a stinking mess and a massive kick in the stomach of steadfast fans.

Season eight of *Dexter* may have been the most pointless season of a TV show. Almost everything that happens over the course of the first 11 episodes had little to no effect on the plot and characters in the final episode — you could honestly watch just the first and last episodes of the season and still get the full story. Further, all of Dexter Morgan's character progression over the course of the series is literally tossed into the ocean during the last five minutes of the show. The entire season reeks of horrendous writing made evident by the consistently stupid choices that characters made over the course of the season — not to mention the constantly cheesy dialogue. Instead of wrapping up nicely and giving us closure, the series finale ended with more questions than answers about the fate of *Dexter*'s beloved characters.

What happened to you *Dexter*? You used to be a charming, witty and suspenseful TV show that was always pushing the boundaries and leaving viewers begging for more. I was always bragging to my friends about how great you were, but with your disastrous last season fresh in my mind, I'd hesitate to even admit I once liked you.

# Despite a boring hunk, *The Bachelor* promises drama



**Alana Willerton**
MANAGING EDITOR ▪
@ALANAWILLERTON



**HAPPY 'JUAN'UARY** Juan Pablo stars as the newest bachelor on the famed TV show, with 27 lovely ladies vying for his heart. SUPPLIED

Another year, another season of *The Bachelor*. There's truly no better way to start 2014 than by indulging in everyone's favourite guilty pleasure — or, as I like to call it, the show that's so bad, it's almost good.

Of course, for anyone who watched the season premiere this past Monday, your joy may have been tapered slightly by the chosen bachelor for this season: Juan Pablo Galavis. Now, I won't name names — ahem, Drew from Desiree Hartsock's season of *The Bachelorette* — but in my mind, Juan Pablo was far from an obvious choice to fill this role.

In fact, I'm still confused about where this "Juan Pablo fever," as host Chris Harrison called it on Monday, came from. Was it the 10 whole minutes of screen time he got on the last season of *The Bachelorette* before he was unceremoniously eliminated in episode six? Needless to say, this is why I was rather shocked when they announced he'd been chosen as the next bachelor — though, luckily, it also means I won't have to compete with 25 other girls for Drew's affection now.

But while I'm still not entirely sold on Juan Pablo after Monday's premiere — "I speak the language of love," he purred at one point, to which I subsequently almost threw my remote at the TV — we all know he's not the reason to watch the show anyways. Sure, the point of the show is to find the bachelor a wife, but we all know the real fun comes from weeding through the bevy of contestants vying for his heart.

Although Monday's episode lacked any real drama — aside from some horrendously awkward and cringe-worthy first meetings between our bachelor and the 27 women — promos for the coming weeks promise plenty of shenanigans. Jealousy over stolen kisses, steamy hot tub rendezvous, women lying on the bathroom floor screaming that they want Juan Pablo to die — wait, what?

In order to help you wade through the women who survived Monday's first cut, I've called upon my years of *Bachelor* watching experience to predict who will make it to the end, and who will soon be saying their goodbyes.

**Who will make it to the end**

***Andi, 26 – Assistant District Attorney***

*The Bachelor* producers try to make you think Andi's a bad egg by playing ominous music during her introduction, but it doesn't take long to see that nothing could be further from the truth. She's obviously tough — as a lawyer who relishes putting away baddies, that much is clear — but she also seems like a seriously cool, badass woman. She even made light of the fact that Juan Pablo forgot her name 10 seconds after meeting her. I would go so far as to bet that she wins the whole show.

***Victoria, 24 - Legal assistant***

On a show where awkward introductions reign supreme, Brazil native Victoria and Juan Pablo shared one of the best first moments when she hopped out of the limo. As they bantered over her ability to speak a little Spanish and his to speak a little Portuguese, the pair had a cute chemistry that the bachelor was clearly into. We don't see much of them in this episode aside from their initial introduction, but I've got a good feeling about this one.

***Valerie, 26 – Personal trainer***

Valerie may not end up being Juan Pablo's final choice, but she's definitely going to go far this season. If you're wondering how I know this, it's because she's the girl everybody will love to hate. The one that everyone knows is awful except for the bachelor. If past seasons have taught us anything, it's that the bachelors love themselves a bad girl — and nothing says bad girl quite like admitting you're not afraid to scratch some eyes out.

**Who's going home soon**

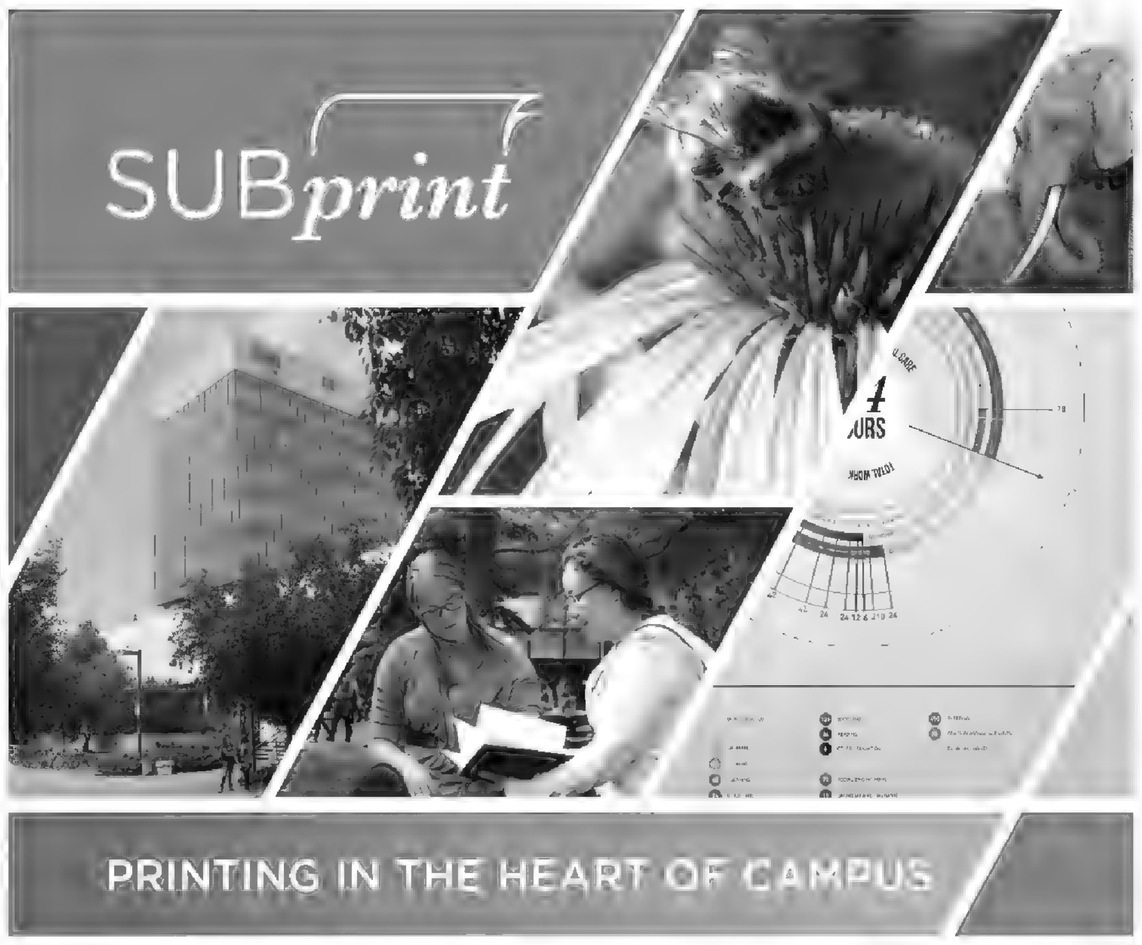
***Lucy, 24 – Free spirit***

Yes, you read that right. One of the women actually listed her occupation as "free spirit." I knew Lucy would be trouble the second her barefoot inched its way out of the limo for her big introduction to Juan Pablo, and her creepy, in-your-face personality didn't change my mind as the episode went on. I would also bet $20 that she's the one shown screaming, "Juan Pablo, I hope you die," in the promos.

***Sharleen, 29 – Opera singer***

Sharleen seems like one of those girls that's impossible to dislike. An opera singer who lives in Germany and originally hails from Ottawa, Canada, she was the front-runner from the moment she stepped out of the limo. Unfortunately for Juan Pablo, she's clearly not interested. Despite receiving the first impression rose in the premiere, the look on her face told everyone that she's not feeling it, and will likely make her exit soon.



# Sports

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# Puck Pandas bench boss leads Team Canada to gold



**UNDER HIS WATCHFUL EYE** Pandas coach Howie Draper helped lead the best female university hockey players in Canada to a gold medal in Torentino, Italy. FILE PHOTO — RANDY SAVOIE

UNIVERSIADE RECAP

## FISU Canada

Wednesday, Dec. 11 – Saturday, Dec. 21
Torentino, Italy

**Atta Almasi**
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @SCARBOROBLUFFER

Followers of the Pandas hockey program over the past couple of decades are alreay more than accustomed to head coach Howie Draper's track record of influence, but last month the veteran bench boss got a unique opportunity to showcase his talent on behalf of his country on the international stage.

"I applied in mid-March and found out that I landed the position about two months later," Draper said, describing his hiring process for the Canadian women's team at the 2013 Winter Universiade Games in Torentino, Italy. "I'd like to say that the selection committee sought me out for the position, but in actuality it was an open process. For all I know, I was the only one that applied. This was the first time that I've applied for the job, so to get it was certainly an honour."

With an impressive resumé that included leading his Pandas hockey program to multiple national championships during his tenure behind the bench at Clare Drake Arena and an in-depth knowledge of the Canada West conference, Draper was able to add invaluable input to the player selection committee in terms of who to pick from CanWest.

"(Since) the coaching staff made the selections, I had to rely almost entirely on the other two coaches — Isabelle Leclair (Université de Montréal) and Rachel Flanagan (University of Guelph) — to pick who they thought the best players in the Ontario and Quebec conferences were and, obviously, they selected well … I added the (CanWest) players and sought input from a coach in the Atlantic Conference for additions from that conference. It was a challenging process in many ways, but I think we made the right decisions in the end."

The selection of players chosen by Draper and his staff proved to be the right mix of offensive and defensive players, as Team Canada went on a winning tear that saw the team reign victorious in all five of their contests and post an overall goal difference of 75 goals.

> **"To win gold at an event of this nature is still special. What was most special is how close the team became over such a short period of time."**
>
> HOWIE DRAPER
> TEAM CANADA HEAD COACH

For Draper — whose team's gold medal was the second consecutive for the program since their top podium finish at the games in Turkey four year's previous — the fact that the closest his team got to losing were two 5–0 victories over the Russia as they posted a total of 77 goals for and only two against — including a tournament opening 21–0 drumming of Spain — didn't mean the girls and the coaching staff found it a challenge to motivate themselves during the tournament.

"We focused on trying to improve as a team ourselves rather than using games against as our benchmark and seemed to have some success with that," Draper said. "Our captains did a great job lifting the energy and getting their teammates excited about little individual and team successes that happened within each game."

While motivation may not have been difficult to come by, Draper still concedes that although the lopsided victories Canada achieved may have not been an instantaneous benefit to the competition his team defeated by such lopsided margins during during the tournament, the coach still believes the games provide a benchmark for teams wanting to perform better in the future.

"I know it's difficult to see how these blowouts can benefit teams from other countries, however, I think they have a purpose just the same," Draper said. "If the other countries want to compete, then they need to put more resources into getting their players to that level. If they aren't serious about it, then they won't."

And even though his team's 5–0 victory in the gold medal match against Russia was an identical result in terms of scoreline from a round-robin game against the Russians earlier in the tournament, Draper still says the game and the outcome were a thrill both for his staff and the players.

"The game was close, but then, as those players tired, we were able to take command of the game," Draper said. "Russia had two pretty strong lines but they were overplayed earlier in the game … It was a good game and to win gold at an event of this nature is still special. What was most special is how close the team became over such a short period of time. The biggest thrill was developing the relationships over that period of time and achieving something together."

While the players return home to resume their careers at Canadian post-secondary institutions and pro women's hockey leagues across the country, top coaches like Draper will also have to contemplate the future of their sport in terms of developing the game at the national team level with the recent announcement by CIS last month of a pilot hockey program that will allow, amongst other things, the ability and opportunity for school's like Draper's U of A, to offer athletic scholarships beyond the traditional amount covering just tuition and fees.

For Draper, who's seen numerous potential recruits over the years — many who play for Canada's national women's hockey team — opt for the greener pastures, the proposal to incentivize high school prospects with money to cover their room and board costs as well means that the sport could get that much more competitive and exciting at the Canadian university level.

"Time will tell if the changes to recruiting regulations will keep our best players in Canada," Draper said, adding that what's most important about the proposed changes is that CIS is trying something new rather than sitting around complaining about losing top Canadian players to bigger and better programs in the NCAA.

"If we can keep only a few of these top players here in Canada, then that might entice other strong players to stay as well. We have to start somewhere and I think this is a good place to do it."

## sports shorts

COMPILED BY Atta Almasi

**BOTTCHER AND THESSIAN LOCK UP BRONZE FOR CANADA AT UNIVERSIADE**

After locking up a silver medal at the CIS championships last season, the gold medal the year before and being a strong peg nationally in curling over the past several seasons, the University of Alberta Golden Bears men's curling team — led aptly by fourth-year chemical engineering student and former Canadian world junior skip Brendan Bottcher — captured a bronze medal last month at the FISU Winter Universiade Games in Torentino, Italy. After compiling a 7–2 record throughout the round-robin portion of the tournament that began with a close 5–4 victory over the rink from Great Britian, Bottcher and his rink — which also included fellow Golden Bear Brad Thessian — cruised to a 6–5 win over Norway to clinch a bronze medal.

**BEARS AND PANDAS SPORTS TEAMS COMPETE IN WINTER BREAK ACTION SOUTH OF THE 49**

With the Canada West season officially on hold for the winter break, the basketball and volleyball teams at the U of A didn't cease competition as Las Vegas, southern California and Arizona played host to a few of the Golden Bears and Pandas indoor sporting clubs.

The Pandas basketball team — which rebounded from an early 1–2 start to finish the first half of the CanWest season on a seven game winning streak and an 8–2 record — travelled to the casino capital of the world on Dec. 27 and 28 to play a couple of National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) schools — one of whom the Pandas were able to defeat and the other whom they unfortunately lost to. After posting 69 points in a one-point victory over Kansas' MidAmerica Nazarene University, the Pandas dropped a three-point decision, 61–58, to Lewis-Clark State College out of Lewiston, Idaho.

While their female counterparts where duking it out with NAIA opponents in Nevada, the Bears basketball team was in neighbouring Arizona for a trio of games against the University of Great Falls and Carroll College out of the state of Montana, and California's Concordia University Irvine. After kicking things off with a two-point 65–63 win over the Argos to start of their trip, the Bears basketball team fell 85–70 to the Eagles of Concordia Irvine, before rebounding for a decisive 78–45 win over the Fighting Saints of Carroll College.

With the U of A basketball squads over in the neighbouring states of Nevada and Arizona, the Bears volleyball team went on their annual winter treak to southern California to take on some top NCAA Division I talent during the winter break. After opening back-to-back loses to the USC Trojans and Pepperdine Waves in Los Angeles and Malibu respectively, Terry Danyluk's squad rallied for a 3–0 win over the Waves to finish with an overall 1–2 record in the golden state.

Be sure to check out our exit interviews with the U of A fall sports teams over the coming weeks on our website at gtwy.ca as they talk to us about their past seasons!

gateway sports

ONLINE AT GTWY.CA



**GETTING A GRIP** The U of A wrestling teams faced off against Canada West's best at the Golden Bear Open. FILE PHOTO — ZENGBEN HAO

# U of A wrestlers gear up for medal run after hosting weekend meet

## CIS medalists Bears and Pandas wrestlers shine in only home meet of the season

WRESTLING RECAP

### Golden Bear Open

Saturday, Jan. 4
Butterdome

**Atta Almasi**
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @SCARBOROBLUFFER

Although they may seem different on the surface, sporting the green and gold outerwear of the school's athletic department as they walk around campus, student-athletes at the U of A are no different than their peers when it comes to rebounding from a long and much needed winter break.

Routines and techniques that were once perfected during rigorous training and competition in the fall almost need to be re-learnt in early January if the athletes are to achieve the same success during the lengthy and arduous winter months.

Luckily for third-year wrestlers Michael Asselstine and Madison Beblow, a wrestling camp and early meet to kick-off 2014 last weekend meant the transition back to competitive form couldn't have come at a better time for the defending CIS medalists.

"I thought it was good," CIS and Canada West bronze medalist Madison Beblow said regarding last week's Golden Bear Open and preceding team camp. "Everyone was obviously tired from the camp that we just had and a bit off from Christmas, but I think everyone managed to perform pretty well despite that"

For Michael Asselstine, the reigning CIS silver medalist in the men's 65 kg weight class, getting back into the groove of things after some time off gave the team an excellent opportunity to recharge their batteries.

"The big point of our camp was to push us to the brink of exhaustion, bust our butts, and then come into the camp and deal with the difficulties that we take from the meetings," Asselstine said.

Having the opportunity to both figuratively and literally flex their muscles on home turf at the Butterdome against the conference's best also brought the chance for the U of A's wrestlers to show off in front of their friends and families, even if the athletes are taking a more long-term look at this past weekend's events.

"It's always nice to wrestle in front of families and friends and people in the area," Edmonton native Asselstine said of the meet. "But, once again ... when it comes down to it, big things matter, (and that's) winning CanWest and winning CIS."

For Beblow, who hails from the township of Smithers in British Columbia, the gold and silver medal finish that the Pandas and Bears both posted respectively at the Butterdome last week aren't enough for the athletes to lose sight of the larger goal ahead of them, even though it's nice to put up some great performances at home.

"It's important to a certain extent, but I think we always keep in mind that we want to win Canada West (and) we want to win CIS," Beblow said. "We weren't peaking at this tournament by any means, but I think there's a certain amount of pride of winning at home."

Despite the overall team successes at the meet this past weekend, there were also some individual moments that, as veteran leaders on the team, made Asselstine and Beblow extremely proud to be part of the U of A's wrestling program and excitied for their teammates.

"One of my favourite moments was (having) a guy on the team (Colton Boxell) that's been coming out for the past two years — this is his third year ... and he just joined wrestling for the fun of it," Asselstine said. "And he's been busting his butt, he's working and he finally won his first match this year. And just to see the joy on his face was worth it."

While Beblow was just as proud to see Boxell pull out his first victory, the third-year wrestler was also happy about how the newer members of her own team performed in their first Golden Bear Open.

"Our recruits — I guess rookies now — just had a really good weekend and I loved seeing them supporting each other and putting out good matches. It was really cool to see," Beblow said.

With two meets already under their belt this season, the Bears and Pandas wrestling teams still have a ways to go before the CanWest and CIS championships in February and early March in Saskatoon and Fredericton, N.B., respectively.

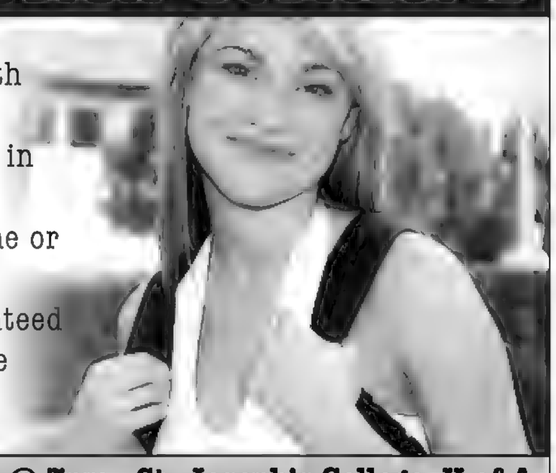
Even though there are more than a couple of meets standing between them and Canadian collegiate glory, both Asselstine and Beblow are cognizant of the fact that coming back home with some hardware at the end of the year means that the season will count as an overall success for the program.

"I think we're seen as competitors," Beblow said of the Pandas who will enter the national championships as the country's defending silver medalists. "I think we've established ourselves as that. And I think we'll bring that this year ... and we'll be fighting until every last point in (those) tournaments."

For Asselstine and the Bears, who took home the team's first gold medal in 40 years last season, repeating as national champions this year carries an added weight for the experienced team who still feel as they have something to prove to themselves and their competition.

"We're going into this as the defending champions from last year and we know — on the guys' side — that teams didn't feel that we deserved to win last year," Asselstine said. "So we're going in still with that chip on our shoulder, knowing that we need to prove we are the best and that we will be the best again as long as we keep working hard."

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# Bears netminder gets chance to suit up for NHL team

BEARS PROFILE

**Cameron Lewis**
SPORTS STAFF ▪ @COOOM

Last month wasn't the first time Kurtis Mucha stepped into a professional sports locker room. And hopefully for the Environmental Sciences major and modern-day ice hockey shutout streak holder, it won't be the last.

While everybody else was busy stressing out over final exams and papers, University of Alberta starting goalie Mucha got a chance to live the dream when he was asked to trade his Golden Bears jersey in for a Boston Bruins sweater to cover for ailing Finnish goaltender Tuukka Rask at an afternoon practice at Rexall place.

"Honestly, I didn't really have time to think about it," the fourth-year student explained. "I literally jumped in the shower, drove to school from my house in Sherwood Park to pick up my equipment and then headed to Rexall Place, and within like 45 minutes I was at the rink, getting ready to go on the ice.

"The experience was unbelievable. Seeing the best hockey players in the world on TV is one thing, but having them shoot on you and interact with them is on a completely other level."

This opportunity to practice on-ice with not only an NHL team, but perennially one of the best teams in the league, provided Mucha with some valuable experience shedding light on what it takes for an individual to reach their full potential.

"This experience really showed me what it takes to play pro hockey, and the amount of effort and hard work that it takes to get there." Mucha stated, as he reflected on the experience. "During the practice, Zdeno Chara was the last guy off the ice, and this is a guy who is already one of the best D-men in the league and he's still the last one off the ice at practice, working his game and trying to get better.

"That really opened my eyes to how hard you have to work to get to the highest level possible."

Aside from the valuable learning experience his stint with the Bruins provided, Mucha — a battle-hardened veteran of the AJHL, WHL, ECHL and CIS — also noted the glaring differences between an NHL locker room and that of one at the junior and university ranks.

"As soon as I walked in the room, you could feel it was the best level of hockey around, and all of the credit goes to the people involved in creating that atmosphere," Mucha said. "Everything is so detailed, the trainers and game day staff are unbelievable at their jobs, and everything is perfect. From post-practice health drinks and food to medical care and shower supplies, everything was so professional and the players had everything they could possibly need."

While his experience in practice with the Boston Bruins last month and making the Edmonton Oilers' main camp at 19 are two of Mucha's fondest hockey memories, his shutout streak in 2013 will enshrine him as a legend not only at the University of Alberta, but in the world of hockey as a whole. Mucha maintained a shutout streak that lasted for 335 minutes and six seconds. This amazing shutout streak is the longest in modern hockey not just in CIS, but also the CHL, NCAA and NHL.

"Being in the playoffs helped minimize some of the pressure, because winning those games was far more important to me than a personal shutout streak. So I was able to put my focus on simply winning games, and it just so happened that three of the four wins I got were shutouts. Aside from that, a lot of the credit has to go to my teammates who played outstanding in front of me and played a huge part in keeping that streak going."

Mucha began his career playing minor hockey in Sherwood Park before he was the first goalie chosen and 25th overall selection in the WHL's Bantam Draft by the Portland Winterhawks in 2004. A Bantam AAA all-star, Mucha led his Sherwood Park Flyers all the way to the provincial championship where they were eventually defeated by Brandon Sutter and the Red Deer Chiefs. Mucha played one more season of minor hockey in Sherwood Park, and then jumped to the WHL and lead the 'Hawks to the second round of the playoffs as a 16-year-old rookie. He proceeded to play four more seasons in the WHL before eventually joining the Golden Bears in 2010.

"Playing in the WHL, your main focus is hockey only and setting yourself up for a shot at the pros, literally everything in your lifestyle during those days revolved around hockey and getting better," Mucha said. "Playing for the Golden Bears, you must find the balance between excelling on the ice and as well in the classroom."

Mucha has done an admirable job for the Golden Bears so far in his university career, posting a career record of 41 wins and 11 losses, coupled with a goals against average that has never been above 2.88.

"We often miss Friday classes and some Thursdays, tracking down notes from classmates or learning the lectures without help from professors is not an easy thing to do, so being a student athlete comes with many challenges," Mucha said. "Classes are stressful, but the hockey side of things at university has given me an opportunity to relieve some of that stress, and play the game I have played and loved for my whole life."

Wherever his career may take him, whether it be Europe or even the NHL, Mucha plans to continue working hard in order to continue playing hockey beyond his days in green and gold.

"I want to keep getting better day by day until my CIS career is over," Mucha said regarding where his hockey career will take him. "After that, I will pursue professional hockey opportunities wherever they may be."

*Check out our game preview online at gtwy.ca on Thursday as Mucha and his number two ranked Golden Bears hockey team get ready for a Canada West championship rematch against Saskatchewan.*



**BRUIN A CUP OF COFFEE IN THE NHL** With Tuukka Rask battling illness prior to last month's game against the Edmonton Oilers, the Boston Bruins called on the U of A's Kurtis Mucha as a replacement in practice. FILE PHOTO — ELAINE YIP

# Cheerleading club looks to build profile while smashing stereotypes

CLUB PROFILE

**Atta Almasi**
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @SCARBOROBLUFFER

There's a time-honoured saying that strongly discourages those who would be content to only judge a book by its cover.

And while athletes in more unique fields of competition unfortunately have to deal with regularly confronting popular misconceptions of their sport, proving people wrong has become second nature to sophomore Economics student Brooklyn Davidson and third-year Nursing student Kristia Tupechka, who, as members of the U of A's Cheerleading Club, take pleasure in educating people on their sport.

"Cheerleading is a sport (and) it's very hard," club president Tupechka said in response to accusations that say otherwise. "It's not just curly hair, makeup and pom-poms ... (We) are always sweating (and) we work really hard."

"We get a bad rep because the only thing that anyone sees of us at the U of A is when we're at football games," Davidson, who's in her second year on the team, said agreeing with her president.

"The U of A doesn't get to see us compete, they don't get to see what we do ... We are athletes."

Apart from trying to disprove notions that their members aren't athletes — a concept Davidson admits is ridiculous given that their team spends anywhere from five to 10 hours a week both together as a team, and individually, working out and practicing routines — Tupechka says cheerleaders also have to dispel the myth that their sport is only something that women can get into. Davidson concedes, though, that with only four men on their team at the current moment,their club is actually on the low end when it comes to male membership in comparison to other teams across the country.

"When we went out east (for the national championships), there's just so many guys on those teams and it's just crazy," Davidson said, with Tupechka adding that, "With cheerleading, it doesn't matter who's on the team."

"We all become such good friends, (because) it's such a team sport," the club president said. "There's no individual aspect to cheerleading; it's everything to do with the teams. So it doesn't really matter who (the member was) outside of the team, what kind of reputation they have. They walk into the gym and we start performing as a team (and) we're all like the same person and I think all guys should be on cheer teams. It's such fun."

Besides adding a few intangibles to the team — "They add so much humour to our team," Davidson said — both the second-year cheerleader and her club's president were quick to describe the logistical advantages to having more men competing on their team.

"Last year we went down to (the) Cheersport nationals in Atlanta where we placed fourth, so that was a really big win for our team (since) we were the only Canadian team represented down there," Davidson said, adding that the American schools they faced had much more male representation on them than the U of A had. "The teams that we were against had a lot of guys on them and that makes a huge difference ... so they (can) do a lot of the strength (routines)."

Apart from schools down south and out east having more men on their squads, another thing lacking in the comparison between other programs from across the continent and the U of A's cheerleading club is the varsity sport status that's often attached to their competition. This fact that both Davidson and Tupechkha say puts them at even more of a disadvantage, despite their long and storied history here at the U of A.

"(On the) varsity teams, students get scholarships to go to that school and be on the cheer team," Tupeckha said. "They have so much support from the school and we don't have that, so it's a lot harder with a student-run club. No one even knows about us on this campus (and) I think that is one of the biggest factors with eastern Canadian teams and American teams is that we're not a varsity team."

"We're actually the only co-ed collegiate team in all Alberta, and then there's one team from B.C., two from Saskatchewan and then everyone else is from the east," Davidson said. She added that since their club does not have varsity status despite being on campus since 1921 and being involved from everything from the annual president's address to football games, that there are people "who probably should" be on the team, but don't have that much incentive due to the fact that it's expensive and too time consuming.

"I think being a varsity team, we would be able to start our season earlier in the summer in July or August and run camps and ... I think we would do way better," Tupeckha said. "From an executive position on the team, because we are a student-run club ... (everything) is all planned out by students. It took so many hours out of my study schedule to prepare for (nationals) and even though I didn't compete with them, I still went on the trip and I had to plan everything. I booked the flights, I booked the hotel and it took up a lot of time, so multitasking and time management is definitely something everyone needs on our team."

Although they may not get the funding or support of other schools or teams on campus, the cheerleading club is still rather successful — placing sixth in all of Canada at nationals last month — and is trying to actively build their profile on campus by continuing to be a constant presence on a campus that may not yet give them the recognition they feel they're rightfully due. And by recruiting new people who may never have even tried their sport, Davidson and Tupeckha hope to pen more eyes to cheerleading.

"There are a few people on our team who have never done cheerleading before and so we work on that with them and — contrary to popular belief — it's something that you can learn," Davidson said. "So it's not like 'Oh I have no cheer experience, I can't do anything.' There's girls who haven't done anything and by the end of the season, they're doing standing back tucks and they're tumbling. It's all about your personal dedication."

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# Jays, tennis, Olympics and World Cup big storylines for 2013, 2014

Sports Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

If you were a fan of the Blue Jays last season, describing 2013 as a roller-coaster of emotions is probably an understatement to how things turned out for Alex Anthopoulos' band of merry men, who vastly underperformed after all the off-season hype. But 2013 wasn't entirely a dud for Canadian sports fans, with Canucks raising the profile of another international sport. And with some big global sporting events for 2014 on the horizon, here's a look back — and a look forward — to some of the biggest sports stories of the past, and next, 12 months.

## *Looking back on 2013...*

### *The "Blue" Jays*
### Zach Borutski

This was supposed to be the year. 2013 was supposed to be the year that the Jays finally broke out of their playoff slump in spectacular fashion, in the key of the 2008 Tampa Bay Rays.

Instead, the season was pretty much an unmitigated disaster. Unable to overcome a slow start, the team muddled through the year, never really seeming to hit their stride. Even an 11-game winning streak in June couldn't buoy their success for the rest of the season.

So what went wrong? Many pointed fingers at the pitching staff, which, despite the addition of R.A Dickey, never really functioned with a true number one starter, and of course, Josh Johnson's 2–8 record and 6.20 ERA didn't do any favours for the team and their fans either.

But a lot of reasons for the Jays' struggles simply fell outside of their control this past season. Injuries to Brandon Morrow and Drew Hutchinson left the pitching staff thin, while Jose Bautista, Jose Reyes and Brett Lawrie also missed significant time in the field.

The Jays' division never really does them any favours eihter, but this year was especially tough, as both the Yankees and Red Sox — who the Jays were counting on to fall off their normal pace — performed beyond expectations, with the Red Sox actually winning the World Series and putting them in a position that many Jays fans thought their team would be in at the start of the year.

Sometimes it takes awhile fr a largely remodeled team to gel, but Jays fans can still be optmisitic that next year could be different for Toronto.

As the saying goes: "You have to be lucky to be good," so hopefully the Jays will stumble upon a little more luck when the season opens up on April 1 north of the border and find something they haven't had since 1993: playoff baseball. And maybe, just maybe — fingers crossed — that elusive World Series banner.

### *Canucks on the Court*
### Cameron Lewis

Not every kid in Canada wants to play hockey. That's Tennis Canada's new advertisement campaign and attempt to raise the relevance of tennis to young athletes in a country that typically hasn't been internationally relevant in the sport. Apparently, it's working. Canada made massive strides this year in the tennis world, shocking the world all the way to the semi-finals of the Davis Cup where they were eventually defeated by the powerhouse Serbians led, of course, by power-serving superstar Novak Djokovic.

Despite the loss, 2013 was massive for Canada tennis, both in terms of individual success for Canadian athletes and in terms of added excitement for the fans. A quick look at Google analytics points out an all-time high in searches regarding Canadian tennis and the Davis Cup in 2013.

At this point in time, and for the first time ever, Canada is better than the United States at tennis. Canada's best, Milos Raonic (ranked 11th in the world), is better than the United States' best, John Isner (14). Aside from Raonic, Canada has another young, rising star in the top 50 rankings in Vernon, B.C. native Vasek Pospisil (32).

It wasn't too long ago that the only Canadian you ever heard about on the world tour was Daniel Nestor, who at 40, still competes in and wins doubles events. Nestor, along with young stars Raonic and Pospisil, did an incredible job in 2013, vaulting Canada into seventh place in the world tennis rankings with Canada beginning the Davis Cup tournament by upsetting the heavily favoured Spain, and following that performance up a few months later by knocking off a talented Italian team.

Similar to the rise of basketball in Canada recently where numerous elite-level basketball products are now plying their trade in the Association, the success of Canadian individuals in the tennis world will hopefully aid the continual growth of the sport in this country, where apparently not everybody wants to play hockey.

## *Looking ahead to 2014...*

### *The Social Games*
### Atta Almasi

Like a quickly assembled stage at the halftime performance of a big-time sporting event, the Olympics seem to be, in Canada at least, a two-and-a-half week indulgence in the pinnacle and spectacle of amateur sport and athletics. The Olympians seem to spring out out of nowhere before drifting away into obscurity — their bask in the spotlight a mere moment in time — before sports fans return to the high-paced drama and action of the major North American professional sports.

And while Canadians, unlike much of the world, place a higher reverence on the snowy incarnation of the Olympics than its sunnier cousin due to our frigid climate, this year's version of the Games is on track to be one that draws the attention of the wider world as well if only for the political and social implications that the events will have beyond the mundane results of who wins what hue of medal.

While the heroes from Vancouver will be back in full force for the red and white — minus a pitcher-chugging Jon Montgomery whose injuries will all but sideline him from the 18-plus-hour trek to the coastal resort on the fringes of the Caucasus mountains and the Black Sea — it will be the reaction of the Russian politicians and government officials to the inevitable demonstrations by LGBT activists on the ground in Sochi that will seek to steal away the headlines from the Olympians competing in the games.

Just as every International Olympic Commitee head bestows the immortal title for the games upon each Olympic venue during the closing ceremony — China, deemed the "exceptional" games by former IOC president Jacques Rogge, was forced to curb its anti-human rights legislation and practices with the eye of the international sporting community focused squarely on it — Russia will want to make sure Sochi 2014 is remembered in a positive light. as those professing to believe in, and willing to fight for, equality will descend upon Sochi from all corners of the world in order to make a point, using the grandest stage in sports to provoke change.

Apart from all the social tug-of-war, Canadians can look to athletes such as Alexandre Bilodeau, Christine Nesbitt, Kaillie Humphries, Maëlle Ricker, Jennifer Jones, Sidney Crosby, Hayley Wickenheiser, Tessa Virtue, Scott Moir and Patrick Chan to inspire — like the annoying Yanofsky jingle from Vancouver — and make a nation once again believe in "the power that comes from a world brought together as one."

### *Samba in Brasília*
### Adam Pinkoski

As the first few days of the 2014 calendar begin, so does a full year of some very promising sporting events. To name a few, there's the Winter Olympics, annual competitions such as Wimbledon and the Stanley Cup Finals. But all of these events pale in comparison to the biggest competition in the world of sports.

This June, the World Cup will be coming off of its regular four-year hiatus, picking up from where South Africa left it, but this time soccer-mad nation of Brazil is hosting it.

Not only will the Canarinho be backed by overwhelming support on their home pitch, but this squad filled with a solid mixture of youth and experience will surprise many if the home side doesn't come away with the most coveted prize in sport.

Current World and two-time defedning European champions Spain are still very much in the running for the Jules Rimet trophy, but after seeing the effects of age to superstars such as Xavi and Xabi Alonso, they will need to call upon their up-and-coming starlets to repeat 2010's success.

As with all World Cups, there is normally the dreaded group of death, where all four teams are international soccer heavyweights. But in Brazil there will be not one but three of these groups. Group G with the likes of Germany, Ghana, Portugal, and the USA, Group B containing World champions Spain, World Cup 2010 finalists Netherlands, Chile and Australia, and Group D containing Copa America champions Uruguay, 2006 World Champions Italy, Costa Rica and England.

Unfortunately, this year's version of the World Cup will also be without some of soccer's biggest stars with Sweden's Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Welsh forward Gareth Bale and Poland's Robert Lewandowski all missing out on the big party due to their teams failing to qualify for the big stage.

Also, two of the greatest players to ever grace the game, Lionel Messi of Argentina and Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, will be there. Both have had their share of plaudits and criticism with respect to their international game but will be looking to silence all critics as they go with every intention to demonstrate why they are the best ever.



# Diversions

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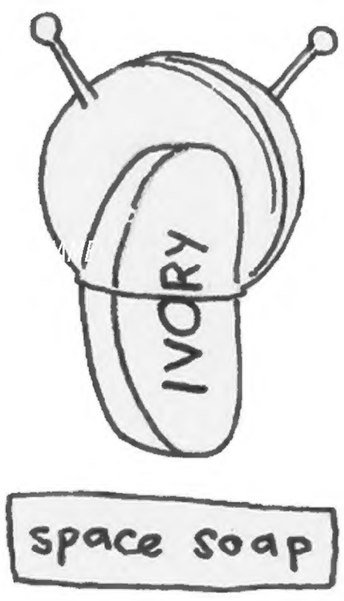
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## ANTHOPOLOGY by Anthony Goertz













## sudoku

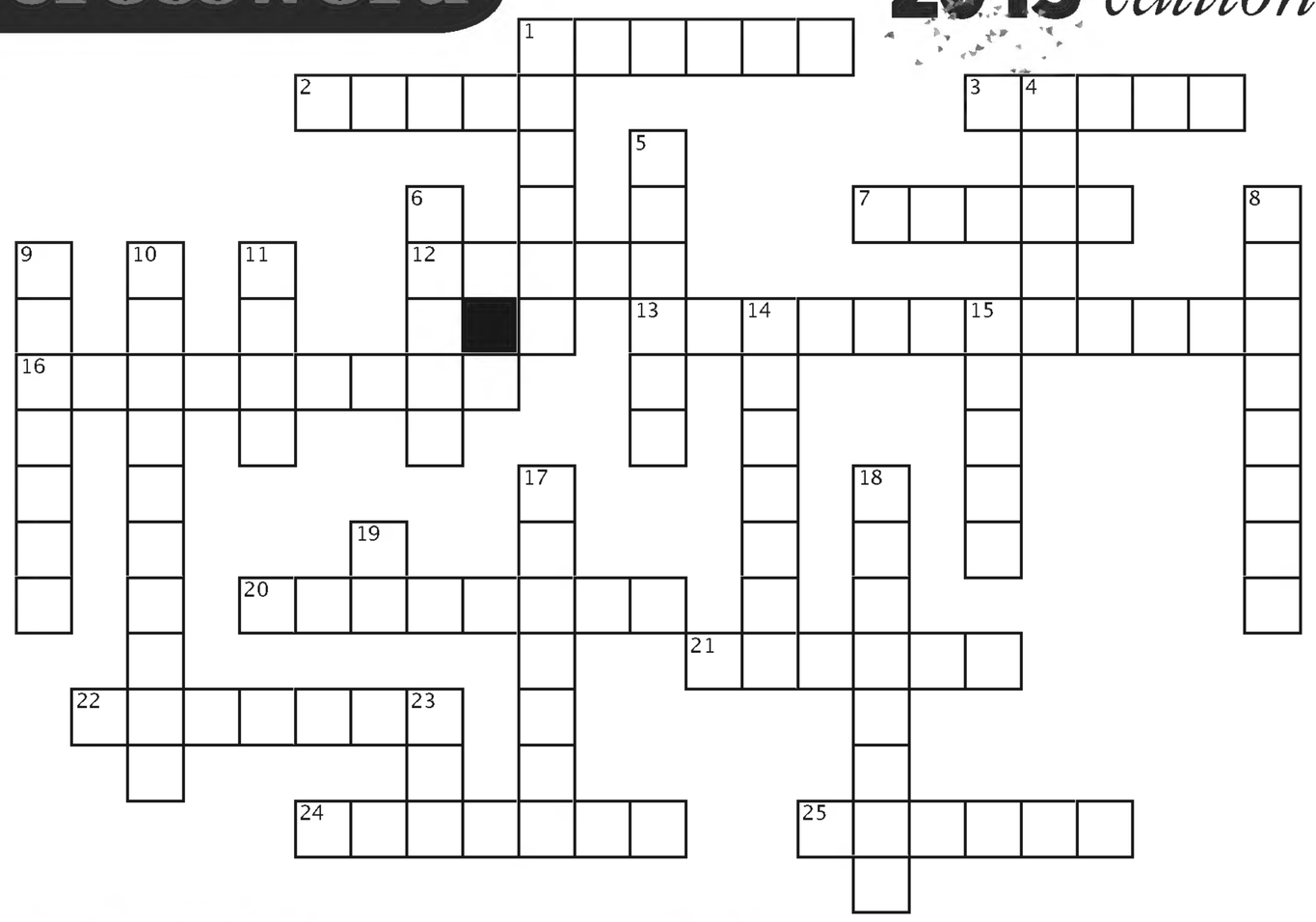
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## crossword

**2013** *edition*



### ACROSS

1. Oxford Dictionary's word of 2013
2. Disgraced cyclist's first name
3. June's natural disaster
7. Deceased critic Roger
12. Canada's first openly gay premier (and Ontario's first female premier) Kathleen
13. Indira's last name (good luck)
16. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act nickname
20. Deceased Alberta actor Cory
21. Young peace advocate _____ Yousafzai
22. Pope
24. Scandalous albino crack-dabbler
25. Beiber, Trudeau

### DOWN

1. No. 1 tennis player Williams
4. 17 year old Kiwi popstar
5. Don
6. Cyrus dance
8. "Blurred Lines" and "Get Lucky" singer Williams
9. NSA leaker
10. City Centre Airport is built on _____ Field
11. Top-selling video game, acronym
14. Deceased political icon
15. This country has agreed to relinquish its chemical weapons after a year of devastating civil war
17. Stanley Cup winning city
18. Minister of Enterprise & Advanced Education Thomas
19. The current Kim Jong
23. The Gateway's home building (acronym)

**IN BETWEEN CAFE** by Stefano Jun




**RED PEN COMICS** by Michael Johnson






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